

ISSUED BY OFFICE OF NAVAL INTELLIGENCE, NAVY DEPARTMENT.

ATTACHE'S REPORT BLANK

Forward five copies (original and four carbons); this number is necessary because of the limited personnel in O. N. I. and because of the urgency for quickly disseminating information from attachés. These copies will be distributed by O. N. I. as per footnote or elsewhere, according to subject matter.

From Argentina Date May 21, 1921 Serial No. 94 File No. 2271-L-1E
(Commence new series each January first.) (Select proper number from O. N. I. index.)
 Source of information Argentine Congress
 Subject Argentine Congress Review of the accomplishments of the Argentine Congress during 1920.
(Nation reported on.) (Index title as per index sheet.) (Subtitle.)

Reference

NOTE.—(The review, indexing, and distribution of reports by O. N. I. will be greatly expedited if a brief summary of the contents is entered in this space. Mention leading geographical, personal, or political names, and the gist of the report.)

WAR DEPARTMENT

Review of the accomplishments of the Argentine Congress during 1920.

NOTED M. L. W.
JUL 8 1921

1. The 59th Congress met on May 14, 1920. The numbers of members of the House had increased from 120 to 150 in accordance with the results of the census of 1914. The budget was passed during the last days of June, the governmental departments having subsisted on monthly allotments during the delay in consideration of the appropriations.

2. Succession to office. *the death* The Vice-President post being vacant on account of Dr. Domingo Luna, a prolonged discussion and controversy took place over the order of succession in case of the death of the President. A bill was finally passed providing that the senior Minister should succeed, but should within 30 days call a general election for electors for President and Vice-President providing that more than one year of the vacant term of office remained.

3. Export of Wheat and Flour. A bill was passed imposing an extra export tax on wheat and flour, effective until November 30, 1920, of 4 pesos per 100 kilos of wheat and 2 pesos per 100 kilos of flour.

4. Export of Sugar. The President sent to Congress a project to expropriate 200,000 tons of sugar and to fix the sales price in Argentina at 4.10 pesos for 10 kilos of refined lump sugar, and 3.50 per 10 kilos for granulated sugar. The House and the Senate were unable to arrive at a reconciliation of modifications in conference; and the bill was shelved.

5. Subsistence Control Board. The Senate passed a bill for the creation of a board to fix prices of prime necessities; but the House failed to act.

6. Cost of Living. A bill was introduced to reduce rentals to those pertaining on January 1, 1920, and to allow building material to come in duty free. This failed to pass; but it will undoubtedly pass in the 60th Congress.

7. Monetary and Banking. No action was taken on the recommendations of a special committee formed to study the financial and banking situations and to advise necessary measures. The committee advised the repeal of law 9483 of 1914 authorizing the President to prohibit totally or partially the export of gold; and the release of 44,000,000 gold and the equivalent retirement on of paper currency in order to stabilize exchange.

8. Unpassed bills. Unpassed bills were many. Among them the lifting of export duties on wool, hides, and import duties on cloth; the pension of workmen by private companies doing government work; conciliation and arbitration during strikes;

Check destination of the various copies as follows: (Draw circle around the destination of the copy intended for the particular destination indicated.)

Oparr. State Congress M.I.D. Gen. Sec. War College Secar. Bar. Ord. C.A.R. Eng. Y.A.D. S.A.A. M.A.S. H.O. Manuscript Desk

Use forms for all copies. Fully form as supplied by O.N.I. Make all changes, and return to the O.N.I. with this form when completed.

PENDING MARGIN. DO NOT BIND AT TOP.

repression of trusts; punishments for food adulteration; and revisions in the Penal Code.

9. Railroads and Irrigation Works. The President vetoed a bill that had passed by Congress after much compromise and many modifications. This bill authorized the formation of a private National Railway Co. for building railways and for fusing the national railway lines of broad gauge. The irrigation projects were to be similarly consolidated.

10. Horse Racing. In the extension of the charter of the Jockey Club of Buenos Aires for 10 years more, racing on Thursdays were forbidden, and the excess profits over expenses were ordered devoted to the National Commission on Cheap House Building.

11. Congress authorized intervention in the province of Mendoza; and the President appointed an Interventor (Receiver) for this province and retired the former provincial government.

12. Investigating Committees. Congress appointed committees to investigate denunciations against the National Council of Education; the railways relative to transporting fire wood and coal; same, relative to metals; the Minister of Finance relative to the export of sugar.

13. Impeachments. The House impeached Dr. Rafael Allende, Judge of the Territory of Pampa, and Dr. Ramos Costa, Federal Judge of Salta, the former for grave misdemeanors and the latter for physical incapacity. Both were suspended from duty on full pay.

14. Various Laws Passed. The following other laws passed during this session are selected as being of interest:

Approval of treaties with Ecuador, Venezuela, and Colombia.

Appropriating 5 million pesos for the relief of the city of Vienna.

Expansion of the Campo de Mayo (Army post).

15. The President of the Senate is Dr. Benito Villanueva (Conservative); Speaker of the House, Arturo Goyeneche (Radical). During the 59th Congress, the Senate was composed of 14 Conservatives, 8 Radicals, 1 Democrat, and 1 Socialist. The House, 100 Radicals and 58 of all other parties.

16. It will be seen from the above that Congress has not accomplished much of anything in constructive legislation. The principal needs of the country are:

- (1). Good transportation.
- (2). Encouragement of Mining.
- (3). Encouragement of Manufacturing.
- (4). Immigration.
- (5). Eradication of labor troubles.
- (6). Heavy export traffic
- (7). Maintaining the peso at par.

17. Relative to these topics, the effect of Congress and Congressional action has been:

- (1). None
- (2). None
- (3). None.
- (4). None.
- (5). None.
- (6). And, due to agitation on wheat and sugar
excess taxes.
- (7). And, due possibly to failure to release gold,
and certainly to hindering the export trade.

Cause: Radical House and Conservative Senate, and political
necessity of keeping food prices low.

ISSUED BY OFFICE OF NAVAL INTELLIGENCE, NAVY DEPARTMENT.

ATTACHÉ'S REPORT BLANK

Forward five copies (original and four carbons); this number is necessary because of the limited personnel in O. N. I. and because of the urgency for quickly disseminating information from attachés. These copies will be distributed by O. N. I. as per footnote or elsewhere, according to subject matter.

From A Date April 22, 1921 Serial No. 114 File No. 111-114
(Commence new series each January first.) (Select proper number from O. N. I. index.)

Source of information 0

Subject 114 2-271-1-2E
(Nation reported on.) (Index title as per index sheet.)

Reference 103-114

BRIEF.—(The review, indexing, and distribution of reports by O. N. I. will be greatly expedited if a brief summary of the contents is entered in this space. Mention leading geographical, personal, or political names, and the gist of the report.)

103-114 outline of National Government (for the monograph).

NOTED N. I. 2
JUL 1 1921

PENDING MARGIN. DO NOT BIND AT TOP.

1. Argentina is one of the five American Republics which have adopted the federal form of government, the others being the United States of America, the United States of Brazil, the United Mexican States, and the United States of Venezuela. All other republics of America have a unitary form of political organization. The Constitution of the Argentine Nation dating from May 1, 1853, and finally sanctioned September 29, 1860, with some later amendments, is the one in force. It provides for the usual three branches of government - legislative, executive and judicial. The legislative power lies in the National Congress, consisting of the Senate and Chamber of Deputies, the former with thirty, the latter with 120 members. Senators are elected by the legislatures of the Provinces (States) and, in the Federal district, by a special body of electors; two from each province and two from the Federal district; their term is for nine years, one-third retiring - selection being made by lot - every three years; there is a property qualification attached to the senatorship. Deputies are elected by direct popular vote, one for every 33,000 inhabitants, for a term of four years, the chamber being renewed by halves every two years.

2. The President of the Republic (Hipólito Yrigoyen, was inaugurated on October 12, 1916) and the Vice-President are elected indirectly, as in the United States of America, for a term of six years, neither being eligible for an immediately succeeding term. The Vice-President is the presiding officer of the Senate. The President has a salary of 72,000 pesos paper (\$31,600 gold). In his executive authority he is assisted by a cabinet of eight Ministers appointed by him to form his cabinet. These are Minister of the Interior; Minister of Foreign Affairs; Minister of the Treasury; Minister of Justice and Public Instruction; Minister of War; Minister of Marine; Minister of Agriculture; Minister of Public Works. The Department of Interior controls the Postoffice, the national telegraphs, the police and firemen of the Federal district, the national territories and the national hygiene. It has also a bureau of labor which aims to settle disputes between capital and labor, to promote laws beneficial to labor, and which compiles labor statistics. It can intervene in any of the provinces under suitable conditions and administer that province until law and order are restored. The Department of Foreign Affairs and Consular Affairs has two subdivisions. Under the first are the diplomatic and consular corps, international boundary commissions and such matters; under the second are the affairs of the Roman Catholic Church, the official religion of the country, although complete religious liberty prevails; the hospitals and charitable institutions, and the national lottery. The Department of Finance has charge of the finances of the nation, the collection of customs, stamp taxes, etc., arrangements, and the service of the public debt. The "Caja de Conversión" (conversion office), charged with the maintenance of the

Use forms for all copies. Use only forms as supplied by O. N. I. Make all sketches, etc., uniform in size with this form when practical. Submit extra copies of clippings, etc.

Opns.	State	Comm.	M. I. D.	Gen. Sec.	War College	Navar.	Nav. Off.	C. & R.	Eng.	I. & D.	S. & A.	M. & S.	H. O.	Monograph	Desk	File
-------	-------	-------	----------	-----------	-------------	--------	-----------	---------	------	---------	---------	---------	-------	-----------	------	------

of the proper relation between gold and paper money; the national archives; the bureau of statistics, the national chemical office (established to enforce the national pure food law); the custom-house, ports and all banks. The Department of Justice and Public Instruction controls, under one division, the administration of justice throughout the country, and another the national educational system, the public libraries, museums, academy of fine arts and similar institutions. This department publishes the official papers containing all laws and decrees, and it controls the register of titles and deeds. The Department of War has charge of the regular army and of the reserves; of the military training school, the military hospital and laboratory, and a large ranch for breeding military horses. The Department of the Navy has control of all naval affairs, of the naval academy, the school for mechanics and marines, the Buenos Aires dry dock, repair shops, and the various port prefectures. The Department of Agriculture has divisions of rural economy and statistics of agronomy; zoology; mines; geology and hydrology; commerce and industries; land, colonies and immigration; and the meteorological office. It maintains experimental farms, schools for viticulture, agriculture and arboriculture, and a chemical laboratory. The Department of Public Works has divisions for roads and bridges, sanitary works, sewers, water works, architectural construction, and for the control of railways, both governmental and private.

3. The Federal Judiciary is composed of a supreme court, four courts of appeal, and courts of first instance. Each province has its own judiciary. The supreme court is composed of five judges, the court of appeal of three judges each, appointed by the President.

4. The Army is composed of the standing army and reserves. Under the law, military (or navy) service is compulsory; all able-bodied citizens must serve from their twentieth to their forty-fifth year, active service being for one year, as a rule. The total establishment of the standing army is about 30,000 men. The National Guard is composed of all citizens between thirty and forty years; the Territorial Guard of those between forty and fifty-five years, mobilized only in case of war. If such mobilization were demanded, the army could be estimated at 500,000. Naturalized citizens are exempt from military duty for a term of ten years. The Republic is divided into five military districts - the Federal Capital, La Plata, Paraná, Córdoba, Tucumán. The navy has approximately sixty-eight vessels of all kinds in its effective fleet. Besides these there are the "Rivadavia", 28,000; the "Moreno", its twin battleship (both built in the United States), which are numbered among the world's greatest sea fighters. The personnel numbers 8,272, not counting a stronger reserve force.

5. The Interior Government of the nation is divided among fourteen provinces, ten territories (Gobernaciones) and the Federal District. The names of these political subdivisions, with their capitals, are as follows:

Provinces	Area (square kilometers.	Popu- lation 1914.	Capital	Population 1914.
Buenos Aires	306,829	2,066,165	La Plata	90,436
Catamarca	78,162	100,391	Catamarca	10,000
Córdoba	168,151	735,472	Córdoba	104,894
Corrientes	88,900	347,055	Corrientes	28,681
Entre Rios	78,330	425,373	Paraná	36,355
Jujuy	43,266	76,631	Jujuy	6,000
Mendoza	148,783	277,535	Mendoza	58,700
Rioja	86,491	79,754	La Rioja	8,245

<u>Provinces</u>	<u>Area</u> (Square kilometers)	<u>Popula-</u> <u>tion</u> 1914.	<u>Capital</u>	<u>Population 1914</u>
Salta	126,577	140,927	Salta	25,436
San Juan	89,178	119,292	San Juan	16,631
Santa Fé	134,826	899,646	Santa Fé	64,092
Santiago del Estero	138,438	261,678	Santiago del Estero	23,479
San Luis	76,922	116,266	San Luis	11,000
Tucumán	22,836	332,933	Tucumán	97,494
<u>Territories</u>				
Chaco	98,238	46,274	Resistencia	8,387
Chubut	225,722	23,065	Rawson	2,000
Formosa	75,480	19,281	Formosa	4,296
Los Andes	72,755	2,487	San Antonio de los Cobres	1,000
Misiones	30,430	53,563	Posadas	10,128
Neuquen	96,464	28,866	Neuquen	2,152
Pampa Central	144,183	101,338	Santa Rosa de Tomy	5,487
Rio Negro	201,009	42,242	Viedma	3,166
Santa Cruz	243,336	9,948	Gallegos	2,200
Tierra del Fuego	21,610	2,504	Ushuaia	1,600
<u>Federal District</u>	185	----	Buenos Aires	1,621,148

(One square kilometer = 0.3861 square mile = 100 hectares.
One hectare = 2.471 acres.)

ISSUED BY OFFICE OF NAVAL INTELLIGENCE, NAVY DEPARTMENT.

ATTACHE'S REPORT BLANK

Forward five copies (original and four carbons); this number is necessary because of the limited personnel in O. N. I. and because of the urgency for quickly disseminating information from attachés. These copies will be distributed by O. N. I. as per footnote or elsewhere, according to subject matter.

From A Date May 21, 1921 Serial No. 124 File No. 160-101.
(Connect to new series each January first.) (Select proper number from O. N. I. index.)

Source of information G. Wilson-Rice, Buenos Aires

Subject ARGENTINA
(Nation reported on.) (Index title as per index sheet.)

Reference

BRIEF.—The review, indexing, and distribution of reports by O. N. I. will be greatly expedited if a brief summary of the contents is entered in this space. Mention leading geographical, personal, or political names, and the gist of the report.)

Argentina - National Government (for the monograph).

101: National Government:

This is carried out by the President and his ministers; the President is elected for a term of six years, in case of illness, incapacity or death his place is filled by the Vice-President; the President can not be such for two consecutive periods, but may be re-elected for more periods than one, always leaving one period of six year vacant. He must be a native born Argentine, and profess the Catholic religion. The last Argentine President to occupy that post twice was General Julio A. Roca, one of the best the country ever had.

The Cabinet is formed by eight Ministers, (formerly five) namely, Ministers of Agriculture, Public Education and Justice, Foreign Affairs and Worship, Marine, War, Interior, Finance, and Public Works; the present Executive Power is composed as follows:

President: Don Hipólito Irigoyen,

Minister of Interior;	Dr. Ramón Gomez;
" " Public Education and Justice;	Dr. José S. Salinas;
" " Foreign Affairs and Worship;	Dr. Honorio Pueyrredón;
" " Public Works,	Dr. Pablo Torello;
" " Agriculture,	Civil Engineer A. Demarchi;
" " War,	Dr. Julio Moreno;
" " Marine,	Capt. Ramón Zurueta.
" " Finance,	Dr. Domingo Salaberry.

The present Government came into power on the 12th October 1916, and its period expires on the 12th October 1922. The "Ministers" are not such in a Parliamentary sense; that is to say that an adverse vote to any one or several of them or their projects in the Senate or Chamber of Deputies, does not imply their resignation. "Ipso facto", although former Presidents have asked Ministers to resign when that happened, but President Irigoyen considers his "Ministers" simply as Secretaries, and as long as they satisfy him, they have nothing to fear from Parliamentary opposition. The President has power to veto any law passed by Congress, but it is rare that such is done; the last interesting case was when during the great War he vetoed the law sanctioning rupture of diplomatic relations with Germany and Austria. Laws require sanction of the Chamber of Deputies and of the Senate, but any law vetoed by the Senate becomes law, if it be voted by two thirds of Deputies, without necessity of returning to the Senate, as long as the President does not veto it.

Oper.	State	Comm.	M. I. D.	Gen. Board	War College	Navar.	Bar. Ord.	C. & R.	Eng.	T. & D.	S. & A.	M. & S.	H. O.	Monograph	Disk	File
-------	-------	-------	----------	------------	-------------	--------	-----------	---------	------	---------	---------	---------	-------	-----------	------	------

Use forms for all copies. If only forms as supplied by O. N. I. Make all sketches, etc., uniform in size with this form where practical. Submit extra copies of clipping, carbons or sketches, etc., where practical. If practicable, submit sketches in suitable styles for blue printing or photostating.

There is however legal recourse to the Supreme Court of Justice of the Nation, with respect to the constitutionality of any law, and if the Supreme Court declares such void, it loses its validity and effect.

This being a Federal Republic, each province has its Governor, Courts of Justice, and House of Legislature, but can not raise troops for defense; still some provinces have armed police to such an extent that they form miniature armies, and if they were to combine, might stand a chance even against the Federal Army, which is not very numerous, and mostly always scattered up and down the country. The provinces having most are those of Santa Fé and Buenos Aires, and they are mostly utilized in the provincial cities and to guard the prisons. The National Government resides in the city of Buenos Aires, capital of the Argentine Republic, from which it governs the country; each provincial Governor governs his province from his provincial capital, and the National Territories are governed by the National Government through a Governor named by the National Government, with the sanction of the Senate. The latter's sanction is also required for diplomatic appointments to represent the Argentine Republic. At present the Government, elected by the Radical party, has a considerable majority in the Chamber of Deputies, but not in the Senate; the Radical party shows signs lately of splitting up into factions, or dissidents with the President's policy. From the commencement of his period of office, the President has shown a tendency to take out little notice of the most prominent men of the Radical party who elected him, after thirty years of sterile attempts to get into office, by means of armed revolutions or sedition, which gave no great results. However, the party became popular, and chiefly due to the deaths of the great leaders of the opposing party (the Autonomistic party), and its consequent disgregation after more than thirty years domination in Argentine politics, no united front was made against the Radicals, and they gained the election of President by a heavy majority. The only disciplined party to resist them was the Socialist party, (subsequently split into diverse sections, the principal ones being the Communists or Internationalists, the Anarchists, and the Argentine Socialists) but the Socialists only have adherents in any number worth counting in the city of Buenos Aires, and do not weigh for anything, except in elections in the Federal Capital, where due to their discipline and good organization, they run the Radicals very close.

The Radicals' initial majority has diminished considerably in every election since the President took office, but still exists; in the last elections which took place the number of votes deposited showed an abstention of about 40 % of the voters and a very large proportion of blank votes, which are null.

The latter are supposed to proceed from discontented Radicals, as according to law, it is obligatory for all who can vote, to do so.

Political preparations will soon be made for the election of the next President who should come into office next year, but so far no candidates are mentioned; unless the opposition groups unite, with a good candidate, the Radicals will have a chance of winning the next time. In the meantime, several provinces are intervened by the Federal Government, alleging that their Governments do not fulfil Republican conditions, but with a tendency to favor Radical politics when elections take place there.

MONOGRAPH REPORT

SUBJECT...POLITICAL FACTOR-----ARGENTINA

From...ARGENTINA

No. 2330 Date June 24, 1921

Replying to No. Date June 24, 1921

NOTE: Figures in parenthesis indicate paragraphs, subparagraphs and sections of some of the Argentine Constitution as published in Anuario Kraft, 1921 (Vol.1) a work forwarded to M.I.D. some time ago.

(Add)

(41) Executive

The Executive is known as "President of the Argentine Nation". (74)

In case of sickness, absence from the Capital, death, resignation or privation of the President, the Executive Power is to be exercised by the Vice-President of the Nation. In case of privation, death, dismissal or inability of the President and Vice-President of the Nation, Congress will determine what public functionary should discharge the Presidency until the cause of the inability has ceased or a new President is elected. (75)

To be President or Vice-President of the Nation, it is necessary to be born in the Argentine territory or to be a son of a native citizen when born in a foreign country; candidate must belong to the Roman Catholic Apostolic Communion; be 30 years of age; be in receipt of an annual income of 2000 gold pesos or equivalent. (76-47)

The term of office is six years for President or Vice-President; and reelection is impossible until after an interval of one period. (77)

The President leaves office on the same day on which his period of six years expires, and no event whatsoever which might have interrupted his period will be a motive to complete same at a later date. (78)

The election of the President or Vice-President will be effected as follows: the Capital and each one of the Provinces will elect a Board of electors by direct vote, equal to double the total number of Senators and Deputies to Congress, and they elect the President and Vice-President by signed ballots. (81).

Principal duties of the President:

He is the immediate and local Chief of the Capital (Buenos Aires) (86-3)

He appoints the Magistrates of the Supreme Court and the rest of the Federal lower Tribunals in agreement with the Senate. (86-5)

He exercises the right of National Patronage in the

... of the... for the Cathedral Churches, proposed... (86-8)

... of suspends the canonical laws of the Council of... the Bulls, Apostolic Briefs and Orders of the Pope... in agreement with the Supreme Court. (86-9)

He appoints and removes, with the Senate's Pleni-potentiaries with the agreement of the Senate; and alone appoints and removes Cabinet Ministers, Consular Agents, etc. (86-10)

He concludes and signs treaties of peace, commerce, navigation, alliance, boundaries and neutrality, concordats and other negotiations required for the maintenance of good relations with foreign powers. (86-11)

He is Commander-in-Chief of all the land and sea forces of the Nation. (86-15)

He declares war and grants letters of marque and reprisal with the authorization and approval of Congress. (86-18).

He declares a state of siege in the Nation in case of attack from abroad and for a limited time in agreement with the Senate (86-19)

He cannot absent himself from the Capital, (Buenos Aires) without the permission of Congress. In recess, he can absent for important reasons of public service (86-21).

(14) Official

(Add)

(43) Councillors

No Minister may by himself alone, in any case make decisions, except concerning the economic and administrative requirements of his respective Department. (89)

When Congress opens its sessions, the Ministers will present a detailed report on the affairs of the Nation and relative to the business of their respective Departments. (90)

Ministers may meet with Congress and take part in its debates, but cannot vote. (92)

DIVISIONS OF MINISTRIES

Ministry of the Interior (page 184, "Anuario")

National Territories
Postoffices and Telegraphers
National Department of Hygiene
National Department of Labor
Argentine League against Tuberculosis
Police of the Capital
National Postal Savings Bank
National Commission of Cheap Houses for Workmen and Employees.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship (page 189, "Anuario")

Argentine Diplomatic Corps in Foreign Countries
Argentine Consular " " " "
Foreign Diplomatic Corps in Argentine Republic
" Consulates in Argentina
National Beneficence Lottery
Society of Beneficence of the Capital

Sanctic Asylum.
Worship and Beneficence.

Ministry of Finance

General Exchequer of the Nation
Inspection of Accounts of the State Exs.
National Bank of Pensions
National Public Credit
Conversion House (Casa de Conversión)
National Treasury
National Chemical Offices
Mint
General Direction of Statistics
General Administration of Import Duties (Impuestos) of
Territorial Contribution, Patents and Government Stamps.
Custom House of the Capital (Buenos Aires)
Bank of the Argentine Nation
National Mortgage Bank.

Ministry of Justice and Public Instruction

General Inspection of Secondary, Normal and Special (Private)
Instruction
Supreme Court of Justice
Law College or (College of Lawyers)
Federal Chamber of Appeals
Federal Court
First Civil Chamber of Appeals
Second " " " Appeals
Civil Courts
Commercial Chamber of Appeals
Criminal and Correctional Chamber of Appeals
Criminal Courts
Correctional Courts
Courts of Instruction
Advisory Board for Minors (Asesoría de Menores)
Juvenile Court
Expert Appraisement Judge for Tribunals
Police Commissioner
National Penitentiary
National Prison
Peace and Alcaldes Courts
Women's Correctional Asylum
National University of Buenos Aires
Faculty of Economic Sciences
Faculty of Law and Social Sciences
Faculty of Philosophy and Letters
Faculty of Medical Sciences
Agriculture and Veterinary School
National Clinic
School of Exact Sciences, Physical and Natural
National Colleges
Normal Schools
National Council of Education
Women's Higher Commercial Schools
National Institute for Deaf and Dumb
National Institutes for the Blind
Professional School of Arts and Trade for Women
National Library
National Museum of National History
National Historical Museum
National Commission of Fine Arts
National Museum of Fine Arts
National Academy of Fine Arts

Ministry of War

General Staff
General Direction of Personnel
General Direction of Engineers
Supreme War and Marine Council
War Council for Officers
War Council for Enlisted Men
Superior School of War
Military College
School of Fire
School for Non-Commissioned Officers
Cavalry School
General Direction of Fire and Gymnasium of the Republic
5 Army Divisions
General Direction of Administration
(Adjutant General's Department)
Judge Advocate General's Department of War and Marine
Sanitary Corps
General Military Hospital
Arsenals.

Ministry of Marine

Naval Aviation
Civil Engineer Division
Adjutant General's Department
Supreme War and Marine Council
War Council for Officers
War Council for Enlisted Men
General Prefecture of Ports
School of Application for Navy Officers
Naval School
National School for Pilots
School for Mechanics
Workshops
Arsenals-----Rio de la Plata (Rio Santiago)
Puerto Militar (Puerto Militar)
School of Aviation
Radio Telegraphy
Naval Commission in the United States and Europe

Ministry of Agriculture

Rural Economy and Statistics
Agriculture and Agricultural Protection
Agricultural Instruction
Meteorology
Magnetism
Hydrometry
Mines, Geology and Hydrology
Live Stock
Commerce and Industry
Patents and Trade Marks
Immigration
Land and Colonies

Ministry of Public Works

Railroads----State and Private
Bridges and Roads
Navigation and Ports
Irrigation
Architecture
Sanitary Public Works
Sanitary Works of the Nation

(16) Sovereignty

(Ann)

(28) Constitutional

The Argentine National Government has the Federal Republican Representative form of Government, approved September 25, 1850.

The Federal Government supports the Roman Catholic Apostolic Church. (2)

Each Province enacts for itself a Constitution under the representative republican system. (5)

The Federal Government intervenes in the territory of the Provinces in order to guarantee the republican form of Government. (6)

Foreigners enjoy religious liberty. They obtain naturalization after two years continuous residence in the Nation; but this time may be shortened on request alleging and proving services to the Republic. (20)

Congress will promote the establishment of trial by jury. (24)

(40) Organization

(Ann)

(119) Political

Both chambers will meet in ordinary sessions every year from May 1 to September 30. Also they may be convoked in extraordinary session by the President of the Nation or prolonged. (55)

Each Chamber is empowered to judge of the validity of the election rights and titles of its members.

Both Chambers begin and end their sessions simultaneously. (57)

Members are exempted from arrest except when taken in flagrant committing some crime which merits death penalty or disgraceful imprisonment. (61)

The Regular Clergy cannot be members of Congress.

Powers of Congress

To contract loans of money. (67-3)

To arrange the payment of interior and exterior debt. (67-6)

To arrange definitely the National and Territorial boundaries. (67-14).

To provide for the security of the frontiers; preserving pacific intercourse with the Indians and converting them to Catholicism. (67-15)

To establish lower Tribunals to the Supreme Court. (67-17)

To accept or reject the reasons alleged for resignation of the President or Vice-President of the Republic. (67-18)

To approve or reject the treaties concluded with other nations and with the concordats with the Apostolic See; regulating the exercise of Patronage in the Nation. (67-19)

To admit other religious orders besides those existing in

the territory of the Nation.

To authorize the President to declare war or make peace. (67-33).

To authorize the calling out of the militia in the provinces. (67-34).

To permit the entrance of foreign troops in the territory of the Nation, and the departure of the National forces. (67-25)

To declare a state of siege. (67-26)

To exercise exclusive legislature in the Capital, and in other places acquired by purchase of cession in any of the Provinces in order to establish forts, arsenals, storehouses, or other establishments of national utility.

Drawing up and Sanction of Laws.

Laws may originate in either Chamber, with the exception of those referring to contributions and recruiting of troops. (68-44).

A bill passed by the Chamber where it originated goes on to the other Chamber for discussion, and if approved by both, it is sent on to the President for examination. If approved it is promulgated (69).

A bill is considered as approved by the Executive if not returned within 10 working days. (70)

Organization of the Senate.

The Senate is composed of 30 members----2 from each Province: 14, and 2 from the Federal Capital. (46)

Those from the Provinces are elected by their Legislatures. Those from the Capital---in manner set for for election of the President (46). Each Senator has one vote.

Term 9 years; 1/3 elected every 3 years; reelected indefinitely.

To be eligible as a Senator, the following are requisites: Candidate must be 30 years of age; have been six years a citizen (if naturalized); to enjoy an income of 3000 pesos gold per year or its equivalent; to be a native of the province which elects him. To have two years of immediate residence therein.

The Vice-President of the Nation is President of the Senate; he has no vote unless when there is a tie (49).

The Senate appoints a Provisional President in case of absence of the President Vice-President, or when the latter exercises the functions of President of the Nation. (50)

Duties:

To give public trial to those accused by the House of Deputies. When the President of the Nation is the accused, the President of the Supreme Court will preside.

To authorize the President of the Nation to declare a state of siege in case of exterior attack.

House of Deputies Organization

One deputy for each 35,000 inhabitants, or fraction not under 18,500 taken according to census. Should be 238 members. (37 amended).

Elected directly by the people---by a plurality of votes (37 amended).

Must be 25 years of age; four years of citizenship; native of Province which elects him, or 2 years of immediate residence in it. (40)

Term of office 4 years, and are reeligible; $\frac{1}{2}$ will be reelected every two years. (42)

Duties of the House of Deputies

To initiate laws covering contributions and recruitment of troops.

The right of accusing before the Senate the President, the Vice-President, their Ministers and the members of the Supreme Court and those of the inferior Tribunals of the Nation.

Judicial

(Supreme Court of Justice
(Lower Tribunals

Judicial knowledge of all procedures that concern matters covered in the Constitution, and by the laws of the Nation with the exception of: treaties with foreign nations; cases concerning ambassadors; public ministers; foreign consuls; Admiralty and Marine jurisdiction; of matters to which the Nation is a party; of conflicts arising between two or more provinces; between one province and the inhabitants of another; and between one province and its inhabitants against a State or citizen of another State. (100)

In all the above cases, the Supreme Court exercises its jurisdiction on appeal; but all cases concerning ambassadors, Ministers and Foreign consuls and in which some province might be a party, it will exercise first and exclusive jurisdiction. (101).

Organization of the Supreme Court

The Supreme Court has 5 members.

Qualifications to be a member are: to be a lawyer of 8 years professional service, and to have the qualifications of a Senator. (37-47).

Lower Courts

The lower Tribunals shall have judicial knowledge of all procedures that concern matters covered in the Constitution, and by the laws of the Nation with the exception of: treaties with foreign nations; cases concerning ambassadors; public ministers; foreign consuls; Admiralty and Marine jurisdiction; of matters to which the Nation is a party; of conflicts arising between two or more provinces; between one province and the inhabitants of another; and between one province and its inhabitants against a State or citizen of another State.

The lower Courts or Tribunals include: Federal Chamber of Appeals, Federal Court, First Civil Chamber of Appeals, Second

Second Civil Chamber of Appeals, Civil Courts, Commercial
Chamber of Appeals, Criminal and Correctional Chamber of
Appeals, Criminal Courts, Correctional Courts, Courts of
Instruction, Juvenile Court, the Peace and Absentee Courts.

G-2 Report

POLITICAL-----ARGENTINA

Subject: Present Executive.

2271-2-6

3110

3

34

(a) Present Executive. Brief biographical sketch.

Marcelo T. de Alvear was born in Buenos Aires in 1868, and graduated from the Faculty as a lawyer. During the revolution of 1890 he took an active part in it and belonged to the Executive Board of the Radical Revolutionary Committee. Later on he was elected a Deputy first for the Capital and then for the Province of Buenos Aires. When President Irigoyen came into power he was appointed Minister to France in 1917. He was also a member of the Argentine Delegation to the First Assembly of the League of Nations. He was President Irigoyen's choice as his successor to the Presidency and came into office in 1923.

President Alvear comes from one of the most aristocratic families in Argentina and he is highly respected in the best elements of the country, and has the support of the most prominent newspapers.

He was practically placed in his present office by ex-President Irigoyen who believed that President Alvear would follow his own dictates, but when he was elected president he refused to be dominated by the ex-President and then the present split in the Radical Party occurred. One faction is headed by the President and the other by the ex-president. Since the split occurred the President has steadily been losing in power and prestige and his following is much smaller than that of the ex-President. It has been the policy of Irigoyen to discredit President Alvear in the eyes of the people as much as possible and with the working classes and the lower elements in the country he has been largely successful. President Alvear's prestige and influence among the upper classes is considerable but he does not appeal to the working man the same as Irigoyen who maintains closer contact with the labor element.

President Alvear cannot be called a strong president. Although he has the best of intentions to have a constructive administration he has not sufficient strength or influence to command a majority in either house of Congress.

President Alvear is much interested in the development of Argentina. In November 1925 he called a special session of the legislature and requested legislation on a number of things which were essential for the good of the country. Among the most important points were:

The Budget. No budget has been passed since 1923. The country has been running along month after month on 1/12 of the 1923 budget.

Law 11,289. This law on the pensions act as it stands now is largely disregarded and unworkable. Congress is invited to repeal the act or modify it.

Mining Laws. Revision of the mining laws. The present laws have greatly handicapped the petroleum industry.

Railway development. New lines are to be constructed and others which have been started will be finished.

League of Nations. The President desires Congress to ratify Argentina's entry into the league of nations.

None of this legislation was passed in the special session

From:.....
A.A.Buenos Aires

Report #3651

July 7, 1926.

G-2 Report

3110

POLITICAL-----ARGENTINA

Subject: Present Executive.

and it is very doubtful whether any needed legislation will be passed during the remainder of President Alvear's term of office.

President Alvear is interested in obtaining new armaments for the Army, but without a loan this cannot be done except very gradually. He is also interested in obtaining new cruisers, submarines and destroyers for the Navy.

The President's closest advisers are the members of his Cabinet who seem to be loyally supporting him, and appear to have a great deal of influence on him.

From: *Randall* Report #3651
M.A. Buenos Aires

July 7, 1934.

G-2

4-1 2271-6
3110

POLITICAL---ARGENTINA

Subject: Present Executive and Cabinet.

(b) Present Cabinet.

1926

On May 31 at an interview between the President and certain members of the Press, the President stated that there is complete accord amongst the various members of the Cabinet and all decisions made are a result of Ministerial Conferences.

In spite of the above statement by the President there has been a certain amount of friction between the Ministers of War and Marine and the Minister of Finance over Army and Navy expenditures, and the Minister of Finance is "persona non grata" with General Justo and Admiral Garcia.

Dr. Molina insists that the financial condition of the country will not stand for great army and navy expenditures at present.

The Ministers of War and Marine are equally insistent on expenditures for armaments in the Army and Navy, which they claim the country badly needs. The President is trying his best to smooth things over to prevent any crisis, as the present cabinet has been very loyal and the Cabinet members are all men of high standing and prestige.

The following is the composition of the Cabinet:

Minister of the Interior: Dr. José P. Tamborini
Minister of Foreign Affairs: Dr. Angel Gallardo
Minister of War: Colonel Agustin P. Justo
Minister of Marine: Almirante Manuel Domecq García
Minister of Justice and Public Instruction: Dr. Antonio Sagarna.
Minister of Finance: Dr. Victor M. Molina
Minister of Agriculture: Dr. Emilio Minura
Minister of Public Works: Dr. Eufrasio S. Loza

Brief biographical sketches of Cabinet Ministers:

Dr. José P. Tamborini, Minister of the Interior.

Dr. Tamborini is a new figure in politics. He graduated as a doctor in 1910. He was physician to various hospitals and on the staff of the Medical Service of the Schools. He has been a member of the Unión Cívica Radical for many years. In 1918 he was elected a Deputy for the Capital.

Dr. Angel Gallardo, Minister of Foreign Affairs.

Dr. Gallardo was born in 1867 in Buenos Aires. He entered the Faculty of Exact Sciences in 1887 and at the same time became associated with the Argentine Scientific Society. He was appointed Treasurer of the Society in 1888 and Secretary in 1890. In that year he took part in the great revolution.

In 1891 he became President of the University Federation. In 1893 he was appointed Professor of Natural History in the Free Institute of Secondary Instruction, and in 1893 he obtained a professorship in the National College. In 1894 he obtained a degree as a civil engineer, and shortly afterwards made his first trip to Europe. On his return he was appointed Professor of

From:..... Report #3664
M.A. Buenos Aires

July 31, 1926.

 10: Report on the Argentine Cabinet.

(2) President's Cabinet.

Zoology and Botany in the Faculty. In 1884 he was appointed President of the Argentine Scientific Society and in 1887 he presided over the organizing committee of the first Latin-American Scientific Congress. The same year he became provisional director of the National Museum. In 1890 he represented the Scientific Society in France, and at that time was representative of the Faculty of Sciences and the University of Buenos Aires. He studied Natural Science in France, and in 1903 obtained his degree as a doctor in Natural Science. In 1903 he received an appointment on the Board of the Botanical Gardens, and in 1904 he became a member of the Entomological Society in France. In the same year he became a Department head in the Ministry of Agriculture. In 1911 he became Director of the National Museum of Natural History. From 1911 to 1915 he represented Argentine Scientific Institutions abroad on various occasions, and due to the change of Government in 1916 he presented his resignation as Director of the Museum to President Irigoyen. In December of the same year he was appointed President of the National Council of Education. In 1921 he became Argentine Minister to Italy which post he resigned on being appointed Minister of Foreign Affairs and Worship in the Alvear Administration.

General Agustín P. Justo, Minister of War.

General Justo was born in Concepción del Uruguay in 1874. He entered the Military College in 1887. He joined the First Regiment of Mountain Artillery in 1893, and in the same year received an appointment on the General Staff. He has always served with Artillery during his career in the Army, and prior to his appointment as Minister of War he was a Colonel of Artillery and Director of the Military College, and has held other important positions.

He has been brought up in the German system of training, and has always been a firm believer in the German Army system, but now he is inclined to be more open minded in his choice of methods of training, and also in his purchase of military armament from foreign countries.

He has a degree in civil engineering from the local university. He is about 50 years of age and is considered a very talented officer.

General Justo is probably more intimate with President Alvear than any other member of his Cabinet. He appears many times on social and official occasions as the only member of the Cabinet with the President, and he appears to be an intimate personal friend and is considered a very efficient member of the Cabinet.

From:..... #3684
 M.A. Buenos Aires.

July 31, 1924.

POLITICAL-----ARGENTINA

Subject: Present Executive and Cabinet.(b) Present Cabinet.Admiral Domecq García, Minister of Marine.

Admiral Domecq García entered the Navy after graduating from the Naval and Military College of the Nation in 1877. His promotions have been as follows:

Ensign.....1881
 Lieut.(j.grade).....1884
 Lieutenant.....1888
 Lieut.Commander.....1891
 Commander.....1895
 Rear Admiral.....1908
 Admiral.....1916

His principal services have been as follows:

1878-1879 Rio Negro and Patagonia campaign on "Uruguay"
 1884: Took part in Chaco campaign on "Maipu"
 1904-1906 Designated to follow Russo-Japanese war operations.
 1907 Member of Committee to amend organic Laws of the Army and Navy. Member of Promotions Board.
 1908 President of the Works Committee of the Rio de la Plata Arsenal.
 1909 Commander of the Division comprised of the "Sarmiento"
 1910 Chief of Naval Commission in the United States.
 1911 President of the Examination Board of the Naval College.
 1914 Special Ambassador to Brazil on inauguration of new President.
 1923 Appointed Minister of Marine under Alvear administration.

Dr. Antonio Sagarna, Minister of Justice and Public Instruction.

Dr. Sagarna was born in Nogoyá, Province of Entre Rios in 1874. He graduated as a lawyer from the University of Buenos Aires in 1899. He practised law for many years and in 1909 was appointed a member of the Superior Court of the Province of Entre Rios which post he resigned in 1912. In 1913 he was elected to the Provincial Legislature. In 1914 he was appointed a Cabinet Minister by the Governor of Entre Rios which post he held 4 years. In 1919 he was appointed as Minister to Peru. In 1923 he was offered the portfolio of Public Instruction by President Alvear. He is very well qualified for this position on account of his experience in educational lines during his career. He has held the following positions in educational lines:

- (a) Professor of History and Civil Government in Philanthropical Institutions in Buenos Aires 1896-98.
- (b) Professor of Moral and Civic Legislation in the Normal School of Paraná 1921.
- (c) Professor of Political Economy Normal School Paraná---1913-18.
- (d) Professor of Railway Law in the Faculty of Sciences in Santa Fé and American History in Paraná's Faculty in 1920.

From:..... Report #3264

July 21, 1926.

M.A.Buenos Aires

POLITICAL-----ARGENTINA

Subject: Present Executive and Cabinet.(b) Present Cabinet.Dr. Victor M. Molina, Minister of Finance.

Dr. Molina was born in 1861 in Buenos Aires and was educated at the Jesuits' School of the Saviour and the University. There he read law and obtained his degree as doctor in 1882. In 1886 he was appointed Secretary of the National Council of Education, and soon afterwards Inspector of Secondary Education in which position he established Children's Playgrounds, Schools of Commerce and Normal Schools for Teachers.

Meanwhile he entered the political arena. In 1888 he was elected Deputy for the Capital and signalized his term of office by proposing laws for municipal autonomy, popular elections of the Governor, etc. His political associations at this period linked his name with the revolutionists of 1890 and in 1892 he was imprisoned with Leandro N. Alem the head of the Radical Party, and deported to Montevideo. In 1893 he was again involved in a revolution---that of Rosario, as a delegate of the Revolutionary Committee of Buenos Aires---whereupon he was once more arrested and deported.

In 1898 he re-appeared in public life as a member of the Constitutional Convention, and soon afterwards was commissioned by the Government to prepare the Rural Code which is now in force. In 1916 he was elected Deputy and re-elected by a vote of nearly 100,000 in 1930 taking as before an active part in Congress, and presenting important bills such as that for adjusting representation on the basis of the census of 1914.

Dr. Molina is well known as one of the most progressive land-owners.

He was appointed Minister of Finance by President Alvear on October 13, 1923.

Dr. Emilio Mihura, Minister of Agriculture.

Dr. Mihura has lived his entire life in his natal province of Entre Rios. He is owner of large estancias there. He served four years as a Deputy and terminated his office in 1916. He was Vice-Governor of Entre Rios for a time and filled up the incomplete term of Dr. Tomás LeBreton as Minister of Agriculture. He was Director of Posts and Telegraphs under the Minister of the Interior and did some good work in putting the service on a more efficient basis.

He was appointed Minister of Agriculture to succeed Dr. Tomás LeBreton.

Dr. Eufasio S. Loza, Minister of Public Works.

Dr. Loza is a native of the Province of Cordoba and was associated with educational work prior to his appointment. He has been known as a lawyer in private life and a more or less unsuccessful politician in his own province. He was a member of the Radical Party, and is known for his efficiency and integrity. He has filled the following positions----

Member of Provincial Legislature,
District Attorney,
National Interventor in Mendoza,
Ambassador to the Brazilian Centenary Exhibition.

3110-

(a) Present Executive

Brief biographical sketch:

The present executive is Marcelo T. de Alvear. Born in Buenos Aires in 1868 of one of the most aristocratic families in Argentina. He was educated in Buenos Aires and graduated a lawyer from the University.

During the revolution of 1890 President Alvear took an active part in, and was a member of the Executive Board of the Radical Revolutionary Committee. Later serving as Deputy for the Capital and afterwards for the Province of Buenos Aires. From 1917 to 1921, he was Minister to France and became the Argentine delegate to the First Assembly of the League of Nations.

In the Presidential campaign of 1922 President Alvear was the candidate of the Radical party and strongly supported by the then President Irigoyen.

Prestige and Influence.

The President entered office in 1922 under the most favorable conditions. He had as a background an illustrious family, considerable accomplishment of his own and the support of the Radical party, and its strong leader Irigoyen.

Soon however friction arose between him and Irigoyen because the former refused to be the puppet of the later. This resulted in a split in the Radical party. It appears that the better element of the country regard the President with favor, however the masses are with Irigoyen. This unfortunate state of affairs has existed since the very beginning of Alvear's term of office. Irigoyen has done everything possible to discredit the President and thru his friends in Congress, to block all legislative progress. In this he has been fairly successful and there is no question but that the influence of President is not sufficient to carry out any constructive ideas.

Executive policies and announced views on important public problems:

The President personally is in favor of a constructive program and honestly desires and makes every effort to advance and develop Argentina. He encourages foreign investments and only recently attended and spoke at the opening of the Frigorifico Anglo S.A. when he announced that foreign investments were welcomed in Argentina and that the people should have no fear that it meant anything but welfare for the country.

International:

He has repeatedly urged Congress to declare itself towards the League and has appointed representatives to attend debates on disarmament. He has announced that he believes in all possible steps which might secure peace while at the same time he has concerned himself with the welfare of the Army and Navy and through his efforts they are now being slowly reequipped.

Domestic:

The Budget, or lack of a budget has engaged much of the President's attention, for the past three years no budget was passed between the years 1923 and February 1927 (See 3200 Legislative).

The Petroleum Industry now operates under the "Mining Law" which is not entirely applicable and works to the detriment of that industry. The President has advocated the revision of these laws.

Consolidation of the National Debt to the Banco de la Nación and necessity of an Income Tax to make such consolidation possible has been another subject which he proposed in his message to the National Congress at the opening of the Regular Session in July 1926.

These subjects were also submitted to Special Session of December 1st to February 10th 1927 but the budget is the only one on which any action was taken.

Identification and influence of close personal advisors to the President:

General Augustin P. Justo is one of the ablest members of the Cabinet and is without doubt the closest man either personally or officially to the President. He accompanies him on all trips whether official or personal and at many functions he is the only member of the Cabinet present. He is a high type of man and most efficient. As to his influence pro or against the United States I can find little evidence. Of course fourteen years of his most active service were spent under the German mission here, however from all that can be ascertained he is absolutely open minded. It is noted that the Naval Attaché here about a year ago listed him among persons who are unfriendly to the United States. No facts can be found to confirm such conclusion and my observations have been quite to the contrary. (See (b) for biography).

Angel Gallardo. The Minister of Foreign Affairs together with General Justo probably have more influence with the President than all the remainder of the Cabinet combined, and it is a very good influence. Gallardo is very able and well versed in Foreign Affairs and it is the opinion that the President leans considerably to his advice in various matters. Gallardo is very much in favor of Argentina remaining in the League of Nations. Politically he stands out at present very prominently. It is remarked in some parts that, should the Personalistas and the Anti-Personalistas of the Radical party be able to effect a compromise and join on any candidate for President, the choice would probably be Gallardo. There are grave doubts that any such compromise can be reached. (Biography is given under (b).)

Manuel Augusto Montes de Oca is a prominent lawyer and writer in Buenos Aires, he was born in that city in June of the year 1867 of an old and distinguished Argentine family. He was educated in Buenos Aires where he graduated with high honors in law from the University in the year 1888. For eight years he taught, first history and then became a professor of Constitutional law. Since 1896 he has been engaged principally in the practice of law and has represented some of the largest English railroad companies and also been counsel for the Banco "El Hogar Argentino". He is now a member of the Board of Directors of the Buenos Aires Pacific Railway and also Counsel to that Company. In the Diplomatic field he served as Counsel to the Argentine Legation in London during the discussion of the boundary question with Chile (1899-1903) and was Special Ambassador to the Coronation of Edward VIII in 1902. In 1906 he served as Minister of Foreign Relations. He was the Argentine Delegate to the Pan American Congress held in Buenos Aires in 1912 and in the same capacity at the one held in Chile in 1923. He has just returned from Europe and in a interview a short time ago he stated that a plan was underway for the railroads to finance large foreign colonies for agriculture development and that his railroad had already authorized the expenditure of a large sum. During the interview he mentioned the interest taken by the Argentine Government. In March 1927 the President called a conference of all railroad representatives for the purpose of formulating colonization plans

(Details of this is being followed and will be reported under proper heading.)

Montes de Oca has been seen in company with the President socially and is his regular golf companion on the links at Buenos Aires. He is an excellent type of man and is classed as more or less friendly to the United States however, his professional connections certainly place him as decidedly pro British.


Carlos M. Noel Mayor of Buenos Aires is considered a good friend and officially close to President Alvear. He was born in the city of Buenos Aires in 1886 where he received his first education which he completed in France where in 1911 he received the degree of Doctor of Letters at the University of Paris. Immediately upon his return from Europe he plunged into politics. At one time he was President of the Industrial Union and Director of the Association of Labor. He was one of the first members and Directors of the Argentine Patriotic League and it was there that he first came in close contact with President Alvear. From 1919 till September 1922 he was Argentine Minister to Chile but returned to take up the duties of Mayor in October 1922. The office is for two years but the occupant may be renamed by the President of the Republic and Dr. Noel will complete his third term next year.

Two other persons of lesser importance might be mentioned as among the personal friends of the President. It is doubtful that they have much political or administrative influence with him: Tomas de Estrada, Director of the Banco de La Nacion and President of the Jockey Club, and Guillermo Leguizamon, a prominent lawyer and Director, and a counsel for the Western Railway (British).

Sources:

Records at. M.A. office.
Current Newspapers
Argentines of today - Parket.

No. 2.- Buenos Aires, April 6th, 1927.


C. T. Richardson
Major, M.A. & A.F.O.

4-1 2271-
2657 6-6
6

Report

ARGENTINA-----LITICAL

Subject: Present Executive and Cabinet

(1) Present Executive

Brief biographical sketch

The present executive is Marcelo T. de Alvear. Born in Buenos Aires in 1868 of one of the most aristocratic families in Argentina. He was educated in Buenos Aires and graduated a lawyer from the University.

During the revolution of 1890 President Alvear took an active part in, and was a member of the Executive Board of the Radical Revolutionary Committee. Later serving as Deputy for the Capital and afterwards for the Province of Buenos Aires. From 1917 to 1921, he was Minister to France and became the Argentine delegate to the First Assembly of the League of Nations.

In the Presidential campaign of 1922 President Alvear was the candidate of the Radical party and strongly supported by the then President Irigoyen.

Prestige and Influence.

The President entered office in 1922 under the most favorable conditions. He had as a background an illustrious family, considerable accomplishment of his own and the support of the Radical party, and its strong leader Irigoyen.

Soon however friction arose between him and Irigoyen because the former refused to be the puppet of the latter. This resulted in a split in the Radical party. It appears that the better element of the country regard the President with favor, however, the masses are with Irigoyen. This unfortunate state of affairs has existed since the very beginning of Alvear's term of office. Irigoyen has done everything possible to discredit the President and thru his friends in Congress, to block all legislative progress. In this he has been fairly successful and there is no question but that the influence of President is not sufficient to carry out any constructive ideas.

Executive policies and announced views on important public problems:

The President personally is in favor of a constructive program and honestly desires and makes every effort to advance and develop Argentina. He encourages foreign investments and only recently attended and spoke at the opening of the Frigorifico Anglo S.A. when he announced that foreign investments were welcomed in Argentina and that the people should have no fear that it meant anything but welfare for the country.

International:

From N.A. Argentina. Report No 37780

April 6, 1927

ARGENTINA-----POLITICAL

Subject: Present Executive and Cabinet:

(a) Present Executive

International (Contd.):

He has repeatedly urged Congress to declare itself towards the League and has appointed representatives to attend debates on disarmament. He has announced that he believed in all possible steps which might secure peace while at the same time he has concerned himself with the welfare of the Army and Navy and through his efforts they are now being slowly reequipped.

Domestic:

The Budget, or lack of a budget has engaged much of the President's attention, for the past three years no budget was passed between the years 1923 and February 1927 (see 3200 Legislative).

The Petroleum Industry now operates under the "Mining Law" which is not entirely applicable and works to the detriment of that industry. The President has advocated the revision of these laws.

Consolidation of the National Debt to the Banco de la Nación and necessity of an Income Tax to make such consolidation possible has been another subject which he proposed in his message to the National Congress at the opening of the Regular Session in July 1926.

These subjects were also submitted to Special Session on December 1st. to February 10th. 1927 but the budget is the only one on which any action was taken.

6-5 26004

1-2 10 000

3110

ARGENTINA-----CHINIC L

Subject: Present Executive and Cabinet

(a) Present Executive

Identification and influence of close personal advisors to the President:

General Lucustin A. Justo is one of the ablest members of the Cabinet and is without doubt the closest man either personally or officially to the President. He accompanies him on all trips whether official or personal and at many functions he is the only member of the Cabinet present. He is a high type of man and most efficient. As to his influence pro or against the United States I can find little evidence. Of course fourteen years of his most active service were spent under the German mission here, however from all that can be ascertained he is absolutely open minded. It is noted that the Naval Attaché here about a year ago listed him among persons who are unfriendly to the United States. No facts can be found to confirm such conclusion and my observations have been quite to the contrary. (See (b) for biography).

Ansel Gallardo. The Minister of Foreign Affairs together with General Justo probably have more influence with the President than all the remainder of the Cabinet combined, and it is a very good influence. Gallardo is very able and well versed in Foreign Affairs and it is the opinion that the President leans considerably to his advice in various matters. Gallardo is very much in favor of Argentina remaining in the League of Nations. Politically he stands out at present very prominently. It is remarked in some parts that, should the Personalistas and the Anti-Personalistas of the Radical party be able to effect a compromise and join on any candidate for President, the choice would probably be Gallardo. There are grave doubts that any such compromise can be reached. (Biography is given under (b).)

Manuel August Montes de Oca is a prominent lawyer and writer in Buenos Aires, he was born in that city in June of the year 1867 of an old and distinguished Argentine family. He was educated in Buenos Aires where he graduated with high honors in law from the University in the year 1888. For eight years he taught, first history and then became a professor of Constitutional law. Since 1896 he has been engaged principally in the practice of law and has represented some of the largest English railroad companies and also been counsel for the Banco "El Hogar Argentino". He is now a member of the Board of Directors of the Buenos Aires Pacific Railway and also counsel to that Company. In the Diplomatic field he served as counsel to the Argentine Legation in London during the discussion of the boundary question with Chile (1899-1903) and was Special Ambassador to the Coronation of Edward VIII in 1902. In 1906 he served as Minister of Foreign Relations. He was the Argentine Delegate to the Pan American Congress held in Buenos Aires in 1912 and in the same capacity at the one held

from N.A. Argentina. Report No 3776. April 6, 1927

21

Subject: recent Executive order to limit

in Chile in 1923. He has just returned from Europe and in a recent interview a short time ago he stated that a plan was under way for the railroads to finance large foreign colonies for Agriculture development and that his railroad had already authorized the expenditure of a large sum. During the interview he mentioned the interest taken by the Argentine Government. In March 1927 the President called a conference of all railroad representatives for the purpose of formulating colonization plans (Details of this is being followed and will be reported under proper heading.)

Carlos E. Noel Mayor of Buenos Aires is considered a good friend and officially close to President Alvear. He was born in the city of Buenos Aires in 1866 where he received his first education which he completed in France where in 1911 he received the degree of Doctor of Letters at the University of Paris. Immediately upon his return from Europe he plunged into politics. At one time he was President of the Industrial Union and Director of the Association of Labor. He was one of the first members and Directors of the Argentine Patriotic League and it was there that he first came in close contact with President Alvear. From 1919 till September 1922 he was Argentine Minister to Chile but returned to take up the duties of Mayor in October 1922. The Office is for two years but the occupant may be renamed by the President of the Republic and Dr. Noel will complete his third term next year.

Sources:
Records at H.A. Office
Current News papers
Argentine of Today - Walker.

Report No 3778.

April 6, 1927.

SUBJECT.....POLITICAL-----ARGENTINA

(FOR INFORMATION DIGEST)

From.....ARGENTINA

No.....3471

Date.....

July 25

1925

Replying to No.....

Date.....

19

3010: Form of Government.Origin and development of present system.

The form of Government is republican. The Republic of Argentina gained her independence from Spain in 1816. The Constitution of 1853, with subsequent modifications is in force. Suffrage is extended to all male citizens over the age of 18 years in national elections.

The Executive Power is vested in a President, elected for a term of six years, and the legislative authority is exercised by a National Congress consisting of a Senate and Chamber of Deputies. The Republic is divided into fourteen provinces, ten territories and a federal district, Buenos Aires.

The Argentine National Government has a Federal Representative form of government, approved September 25, 1860. Each province enacts for itself a Constitution under the representative republican system.

The Federal Government intervenes in the territory of the Province in order to guarantee the republican form of Government.

Branches.

1. Executive.
2. Legislative
3. Judicial.

WALLING 2115

4-1 2271-L12 3

G-2 REPORT

SUBJECT POLITICAL-----ARGENTINA

(FOR INFORMATION DIGEST)

From ARGENTINA

No. 3472 Date July 24, 1925

Replying to No. Date 19

3110: Present Executive and

Ministry.

The present Executive and Ministry of Argentina are as follows:

- President: Dr. Marcelo T. de Alvear
- Vice-President: Dr. Elpidio Gonzalez
- Minister of Interior: Dr. Vicente C. Gallo
- Minister of Foreign Affairs and Worship:
Dr. Angel Gallardo.
- Minister of Finance: Dr. Victor Molina
- Minister of Justice and Public Instruction: Dr. Adolfo Sagarna.
- Minister of War: Brig. General Agustin P. Justo
- Minister of Marine: Admiral Manuel D. Garcia
- Minister of Agriculture: Dr. Tomas A. LeBreton
- Minister of Public Works: Dr. Roberto M. Ortiz

Stability, Public Confidence and Support.

The present president is a man of high ideals and aims, and is the nominal head of the Radical Party, which is now in power. He was chosen by his predecessor Sr. Hipolito Irigoyen who used his influence to put Dr. Alvear in the office he now holds.

Since attaining office, through his refusal to follow the dictates of his predecessor, the Radical Party has become split under two heads: the Radical Impersonalist Party, headed by Dr. Alvear and the Personalist or Old Radical Party headed by Sr. Irigoyen.

Through the split in the Radical Party, Dr. Alvear, who commands the loyalty and respect of the better classes in the country, but he has been unable to carry out the policies which he would like to put through Congress on account of the blocking policy of the other faction of the Radical Party headed by Irigoyen.

Since Dr. Alvear's election to office on October 12, 1923 practically no constructive legislation has been passed by Congress and Congress has been at a virtual stalemate. No party commands a majority and nothing can be passed in Congress without a combination of several parties, and this has not been affected to date.

Dr. Alvear has on many occasions ordered investigations into the different administrative departments of the government, and various prosecutions have been made of individuals on account of irregularities and frauds, and many employees have been discharged on account of inefficiency.

The present executive has not been in sympathy with the policy of his predecessor in government intervention in the

Binding Margin.

provinces. There were eighteen interventions under President Irigoyen, four with and fourteen without the sanction of Congress. President Alvear has only intervened three provinces, and this only under extreme necessity.

Dr. Alvear can be considered as a good friend of the Army and Navy, and it is his desire to pass constructive legislation with respect to the services, and also modernize their equipment. Both the Ministers of War and Marine are officers in the army and navy, and are strong members of the Cabinet.

The Government of Argentina has been stable for many years, and the party now in power will be able to continue its present term in office until the next presidential election without any fear of revolutionary movements in the country.

Loyalty and support of Cabinet.

The members of the Cabinet are appointees of the President, and naturally are loyal to him and support him. The Vice-President is a strong Irigoyen man.

4-1 22712/12
3

SUBJECT...POLITICAL-----ARGENTINA

(FOR INFORMATION DIGEST)

From...ARGENTINA

No. 3473 Date July 24, 1925

Replying to No. Date 19

3200: Legislative---General.

The powers of Congress (Senate and Chamber of Deputies) are as follows:

- To contract loans of money.
- To arrange the payment of interior and exterior debt.
- To determine definitely the national and territorial boundaries.

- To provide for the security of the frontiers; preserving pacific intercourse with the Indians and converting them to Catholicism.

- To establish lower tribunals to the Supreme Court.

- To accept or reject the reasons alleged for resignation of the President or Vice-President of the Republic.

- To approve or reject the treaties concluded with other nations and with the concordats with the Apostolic See; regulating the exercise of Patronage of the Nation.

- To admit other religious orders besides those existing in the territory of the Nation.

- To authorize the Executive to declare war or make peace.

- To authorize the calling out of the militia in the provinces.

- To permit the entrance of foreign troops in the territory of the Nation, and the departure of the National forces.

- To declare a state of siege.

- To exercise exclusive legislature in the Capital, and in other places acquired by purchase or cession, in any of the Provinces in order to establish forts, arsenals, storehouses, or other establishments of national utility.

Laws may originate in the Senate or House of Deputies, with the exception of those referring to contributions and recruiting of troops which are the exclusive prerogative of the House of Deputies.

Senate.

The Senate is composed of 30 members-----2 from each Province: 14, and 2 from the Federal Capital.

Those from the Provinces are elected by their Legislatures. Those from the Capital-----in manner set for for election of the President. Each Senator has one vote.

Term is for 9 years; 1/3 elected every 3 years; reelected indefinitely.

To be eligible as a Senator, the following are requisite s: candidate must be 30 years of age; have six years a citizen (if naturalized); to enjoy an income of 2,000 pesos gold per year or its equivalent; to be a native of the province which elects him. To have two years of immediate residence therein.

The Vice-President of the Nation is President of the Senate:

Binding Margin.

he has no vote unless when there is a tie.

The Senate appoints a Provisional President in case of absence of the Vice-President; also when the latter exercises the functions of president of the Nation.

The Senate also initiates laws covering contributions and recruitment of troops. The right of accusing before the Senate the President, the Vice-President, their Ministers and the members of the Supreme Court and those of the inferior Tribunals of the Nation.

SUBJECT POLITICAL-----ARGENTINA-----

----- (FOR INFORMATION DIGEST) -----

From ARGENTINA-----

No. 3474----- Date----- July 24-----, 19 25

Replying to No.----- Date-----, 19

3300:Judiciary---General.

The Judicial Power of the Nation is exercised by a Supreme Court of Justice, and by other lower Tribunals which Congress establishes in the Territory of the Nation.

In no way may the President of the Nation exercise judicial powers.

The Supreme Court of the Nation, and the lower Tribunals take part in and decide upon all suits concerned with matters governed by the Constitution and by laws of the Nation; also they are concerned with treaties made with foreign nations; with cases concerning Ambassadors. Public Ministers and foreign consuls; Admiralty and marine jurisdiction cases; of affairs to which the nation is a party; of cases arising two or more provinces; between one province and the residents of another; between residents of different provinces, and between one province and its residents against a foreign State or citizen.

In such cases, the Supreme Court exercises its jurisdiction by appeal, according to the rules and exceptions prescribed by Congress; but in all matters concerning Ambassadors, Ministers and foreign Consuls, to which one of the Provinces is a party, the Supreme Court has original and exclusive intervention.

G-2 REPORT

4-1 2271-212 31
5

SUBJECT POLITICAL-----ARGENTINA-----

(FOR INFORMATION DIGEST)

From ARGENTINA-----

No. 3475----- Date July 24-----, 19 25

Replying to No.----- Date-----, 19

3100: Executive Departments--including
Cabinet or Ministry.

Appointment to and tenure of office; inherent and vested powers;
constitution, functions and responsibilities.

The President is elected to office for a period of six years, and he alone appoints and removes from office the members of his Ministry. The normal term of office of a minister is thus six years during the incumbency of the president.

The Executive Power appoints the magistrates of the Supreme Court, and the rest of the Federal Lower Tribunals in agreement with the Senate.

The Executive Power confirms or suspends the canonical laws of the Council of Bishops, the Bulls, Apostolic Briefs and the orders of the Pope at Rome in agreement with the Supreme Court.

The Executive Power appoints and removes Ministers Plenipotentiaries with the agreement of the Senate.

The Executive Power declares war and grants letters of marque and reprisal with the authorization and approval of Congress. It also declares a state of siege in the Nation in case of attack from abroad, and for a limited time in agreement with the Senate.

The President or Executive is seconded by his Ministers who number seven in all, to wit; Interior, Foreign Affairs, Finance, Justice, Public Instruction and Worship, War and Marine. These Ministries are in charge of the affairs of the Nation, and control and legalize the action taken by the President by means of their signature, without which requisite such action lacks efficacy. Each Minister is responsible for the acts he legalizes; he is co-responsible for those legalized in agreement with his colleagues. A Minister may not by himself alone, in any case make decisions except concerning the economic and administrative requirements of his department. After Congress opens its sessions, the Ministers should present a report giving the country's situation in detail, regarding those matters under their respective departments. They cannot be Senators or Deputies without resigning their posts as Ministers. The Ministers may be present at Congressional sessions, and take part in its debates, but they may not vote. They enjoy a salary fixed by law for their services, and this cannot be increased or diminished during their incumbency.

Binding Margin.

4-1 2271-L-12 31
6

G-2 REPORT

CONFIDENTIAL

SUBJECT POLITICAL-----ARGENTINA

(FOR INFORMATION DIGEST)

From ARGENTINA

No. 3476

Date

July 25

, 1925

Replying to No.

Date

, 19

3400: Local Governments.

System of government-----executive and legislative; inherent or vested powers, in relation to central government.

Each one of the provinces and the capital has a principal local authority, its convention, which meets to proclaim candidates for local elections.

For political purposes the electoral college of the Federal Capital is divided into 30 precincts, including the city proper and the various suburbs.

Each province enacts for itself a constitution under the representative republican system.

In general the relation of the Provincial Governments in Argentina to the Federal Government is about similar to the relation of the government of the various states to the Federal Government in the United States.

The Federal Government intervenes in the territory of the Province in order to guarantee the republican form of Government.

Binding Margin.

G-2 REPORT

OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
MIL. INTS. DIV.

1925

2271-L-12
7

OCT 3

WAR DEPARTMENT

SUBJECT POLITICAL-----ARGENTINA-----

(FOR INFORMATION DIGEST)

From ARGENTINA

No. 3507 Date September 10, 1925

Replying to No. Date 19

3310:Present Personnel of Highest

Judicial Tribunal.

The Supreme Court of Argentina is composed of 5 members. Only lawyers having 8 years' practice in federal courts, who are at least 30 years of age, citizens of 6 years standing, and possessing an income of at least \$2000 m/n per year are eligible to hold office.

The Chief Justice, Dr. Antonio Bermejo, is an ex-political leader, who was a dangerous presidential candidate, and therefore the political party in power side-tracked him by placing him at the head of the Supreme Court. Today he is an old man, but is mentally alert, active and has great experience.

✓ The other members of the Supreme Court are: Dr. Figueroa Alcorta, ex-President of the Republic, who is perhaps the most efficient member of the court. Drs. Roberto Repetto and Ramón Mendez have sprung from the judiciary, having risen from the lower courts up to their present high positions. Dr. Laurencena is a prominent lawyer from the interior of the country, ex-governor of the Province of Entre Rios, was a possible candidate for senator, but as a vacancy in the Supreme Court occurred, he was side-tracked from politics and placed on the highest bench of the country, which he entered at 80 years of age.

In general there is very high respect felt for the Supreme Court. It is composed of eminent men of high integrity, and there is no cause for complaint.

There is no important decision pending, but in case the income tax legislation should become law, the press states that it will be hotly contested before the court.

Binding Margin.

G-2 Report

POLITICAL-----ARGENTINA

Subject: Local Governments.

JUN 11 1926

(a) Relationship to Central Government.

The local governments in Argentina are the Municipality of the City of Buenos Aires, 14 Provincial Governments and 10 territories.

The Constitution of 1853 as amended in 1860 places the provinces in almost exactly the same situation as the position of the various states with respect to the United States Government.

All the provinces enjoy the rights to frame and amend their own constitutions subject to their obligation of carrying on a Republican form of government. The government in all the provinces is very nearly the same.

The provincial governments are very frequently inefficient and corrupt and they often exceed their authorized powers, and the National Government under Art.6 of the Federal Constitution is empowered to step in and regulate the affairs of the provincial government until the province is functioning normally again.

There have been no cases in late years where government intervention has been made in a province on account of the disloyalty to the central government. The territories are under government control at all times.

The government frequently exercises this right to intervene in the government of the provinces to insure a republican form of government and when this happens it is done either to retain an existing government in power or to entirely replace it. This right has been freely exercised by the National Government, and usually there is one or more provinces under government control at any one time. At present the provinces of La Rioja and San Juan are under government control.

Since the triumph of the principle of Federal Government over a centralized government in 1861, there have been no cases of any province or provinces attempting to withdraw from the union nor does there seem to be any desire on the part of any province to secede at the present time.

The provinces vary greatly in area, population and wealth. The provinces of Buenos Aires, Santa Fe and Cordoba are the largest and wealthiest. The poorer provinces like Jujuy and Salta, which have a small population, have to be helped by national subsidies in the performance of their simplest elementary functions, while the wealthier ones have developed extensive public works, and are perfecting their system of public education.

(b) Organization of Local Governments.

The composition of the local governments and their representation in the national legislature is as follows:

From:.....
M.A.Buenos Aires

Report #3626

May 12, 1926.

Subject: Local Governments.

The composition of the legislatures of the local governments and their representation in the National Legislature is as follows:

Each province elects its own governor.
The Federal District in Argentina differs from that in the United States in that it has representation in Congress.

May 12, 1926.

3400.-

Local Governments (States, Provinces or Departments):

(a) Relationship to Central Government.

RECEIVED G. 2 W. D. MAY 12 1927

The Legal Aspects: Article Five of the Constitution (See 2300 for details of that article) guarantees to each Province the freedom of its institutions with general limitations.

Article 104 reserves to each Province all power not delegated to the Federal Government by the Constitution and expressly reserves all special agreements made at the time of admitting the Province as a member of the Federal Union.

Article 105 states that each Province shall have the right to elect its own Governors, its Legislature and other provincial officers without interference by the Federal Government.

Article 107 confers upon the provinces authority to make certain treaties towards administering justice, public works of common interest, economical matters, all with consent of the Federal Senate; and to promote its immigration, industries, the construction of railroads and canals, colonization of provincial property, exploration of its rivers, introduction of foreign capital and to make laws in regard to these matters.

Article 108 states that the provinces will not exercise power delegated to the Nation. They will make no treaties of a political nature, no laws relating to commerce or interior or exterior navigation; will not establish provincial customs houses, will not establish a mint or banks issuing currency without approval of the Federal Congress. The Provinces will not enact special civic, commercial and mining codes; nor enact special laws on citizenship and naturalization, bankruptcy, counterfeiting money or documents of State; neither will they arm boats of war or raise armies except in case of exterior invasion of a danger so imminent that admits no delay and in that case notifying immediately the Federal Government; nor name or receive foreign agents, and admit no new religious orders.

Article 109 provides: No province will make war on another province. Their complaints will be submitted to the Supreme Court of the Nation and decided by them. Any such acts of hostility will be considered civil war and the Federal Government will suppress in accordance with the law.

Article 110 concludes the provisions of the Federal Constitution on this subject with the statement that the Governors of the Provinces are the natural agents of the Federal Power in enforcing the Constitution and the laws of the Nation.

Actual Practices:

Article six of the Constitution states: "The Federal Government may intervene in the territory of a Province in order to guarantee the republican form of Government. This provision does, and has been so interpreted in the past, as giving the President unlimited opportunity and excuse to interfere with the provincial government. There were several cases where the right was exercised previous to 1916 but it was during the regime of President Irigoyen that National intervention in the Provinces became a joke and a by-word. There were eighteen interventions during the period of 1916-1922. Four of them were with and fourteen without, the sanction of Congress. Only one Province was not intervened and one was intervened three times. It is alleged that many of Irigoyen's interventions were simply moves in the political game to replace his political opponents

3400.-

by his own political friends. During the present administration there have been three interventions. At the present time there is some agitation in the newspapers for Federal intervention in Mendoza. A few days ago while the inspectors at the polls were counting the votes cast at a Provincial election, a mob of some ten or fifteen people entered the building and began firing revolvers. Some twenty or thirty shots were fired, also there occurred one or two fist fights among the opposing parties. The Governor in his report stated that the Personalistas started the firing while the Personalistas' leader reports that the Anti-Personalistas were the guilty ones. The disorder was immediately suppressed however as the Anti-Personalistas were defeated at the provincial polls they immediately took their case to the newspapers for intervention which, of course, would mean a new election. Indications are that they will be no intervention.

There have been one or two weak efforts in the National Congress to invoke laws to prevent the Federal Government intervening to the extent that has been witnessed during the past ten years. Such efforts have received little support. The President is the outstanding feature of the Government and during the term Irigoyen was in office -1916-1922- he did not hesitate to stand on the principle "I am the Law" and he had sufficient power to bend Congress to his will.

(b) Outline Organization of the Government.

Under the provisions of the Constitution, the fourteen provinces have each set up a republican form of Government with the executive and legislative branches elected by the people. The term and numbers vary in different provinces as shown on the following chart:

Capital and Provinces	Legislature									
	National					State				
	Sena- tors	Deput- ies	No. Hou- ses	Sena- tors	Deput- ies	Vice- Gov- ern- ers	No. of Minis- ters	Period of Gov- ern- ment		
Capital	2	32	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bs. Aires	2	42	2	38	76	1	3	4		
Sta. Fe	2	19	2	19	41	1	3	4		
Entre Rios	2	9	2	14	27	1	2	4		
Corrientes	2	7	2	13	26	1	2	4		
Córdoba	2	15	2	29	36	1	3	4		
Tucuman	2	7	2	19	34	-	2	4		
S. del Est.	2	6	1	-	26	-	2	4		
San Luis	2	3	1	-	20	-	2	4		
Salta	2	3	2	21	32	-	2	3		
Jujuy	2	2	1	-	18	-	2	3		
Catamarca	2	2	2	10	20	1	2	4		
La Rioja	2	2	1	-	18	1	1	3		
San Juan	2	3	2	15	24	1	2	3		
Mendoza	2	6	2	18	27	1	3	3		
	30	158								

(x) Santiago del Estero.

3400.-

It will be noted that the Federal Capital has representation in the National Legislature. The Municipal Government of the City of Buenos Aires is exercised by a Mayor appointed by the President with the consent of the Senate. The Mayor may succeed himself as is the case with the present Mayor Noel who next year will have completed three terms of two years each. He is assisted by a City Council of twenty-six members elected by the people. The political composition at present is: Personalistas 12, Socialists 8, Anti-Personalistas 2, Concentracionistas 2, Theatre party 1, and Communist 1.


The Provinces are divided into "Partidos" or counties as is known in most of the states in the United States. The head of the "Partido" government is called an "Intendente" or Mayor who is the head of the county as well as the County seat or Municipality. In large cities as Bahia Blanca for example, the chief of the Partido is assisted by a Council or as it is called in some parts of the United States, County Commissioners. These officers are all elected by the people of the "Partidos".

In the territories for purposes of administration, there are also smaller divisions or districts, the chief of each being appointed by the Governor of the Territory.

Sources:
Compiled from previous reports.
Constitution of Argentina.
Anuario Kraft, 1927.
Daily newspapers.

Report No. 3780

Buenos Aires, April 12th, 1927.


C.T. Richardson
Major, G.S. M.A.

4-1
2271-L-12
NO OBJECTION TO PUBLICATION
CIRCULATION

3410. LOCAL POLITICAL CONDITIONS

(a) Loyalty to Central Government

Since the beginning of modern Argentina (1868) in only one or two Provinces has there been overt act of disloyalty to the central Government. Quite a few cases of disloyalty on the part of the provinces to their republican form of government have occurred; and other cases of alleged disloyalty for purposes of intervention by the National Government for the purpose of securing control of the provincial government.

It might be remarked that the provinces in the East and Mid West are more influenced by national politics than the others. During the period 1916-1922 all provinces were intervened except Santa Fe, and some of them three times. Enemies of President Irigoyen claim that interventions were political and made simply for the purpose of securing control of the provincial governments, however, it is certain that in many of these cases the provincial affairs had reached such a stage of chaos that intervention and reorganization were absolutely necessary.

Province of Buenos Aires

This province has been the scene of many struggles and controversies in the early political history. Previous to 1880 Buenos Aires was the capital of the province as well as of the Confederation. During that year there was an armed conflict between the Federalist Party and a party called the Unitarians. The result was a victory for both sides. The Capital of the province was moved to La Plata and Buenos Aires became the National Capital of a closer Confederation.

In July of 1890 was formed in Buenos Aires the Radical Party and an open revolution was started against President Celman. On August 6th Celman resigned and was succeeded by Vice-President Pellegrini. In 1893 Governor Costa of the Province of Buenos Aires planned to overthrow the Central Government; in a few months he was forcibly deposed. The provincial government at this time was in very bad condition. It was thoroughly distrusted. Every Department was filled with grafters and convictions of the guilty could not be secured.

Within a few months after Irigoyen became President (1917) the Federal Government intervened in order to reorganize the Provincial Government. It is charged by the enemies of Irigoyen that this was one of the cases in which the intervention was purely a political move to put the Conservadores out of office.

In 1925 a similar plan was projected but was not carried into effect. At this time President Alvear was in office and a definite split had been realized in the Radical Party. The Irigoyenists of the Radical Party were in control of the Provincial Government. The Intervention act was passed by the National Congress but the President would not approve it. The Minister of the Interior (Gallo) who had favored this intervention resigned from the Cabinet as a protest against the President not approving intervention. The Government of Buenos Aires is now in the hands of the Irigoyenistas, with Valentín Vergara as Governor.

34710

NO OBJECTION TO CELEBRATED CIRCULARS

Province of Entre Rios

This province is one of the most important as far as national politics are concerned. It has been one of the strongholds of the conservadores for many years. At the present time however, the Irigoyenists have considerable following. History contains no account of disloyalty on the part of the people of this province.

However, at a time of suspension of the representative form of government the President intervened on the 27th of April 1918, to reorganize the Provincial Government. This intervention lasted one year of 11 months and 17 days. The province is today governed by Agustin Justo.

Province of Cordoba

This province is one of the most important as far as national politics are concerned. It has been one of the strongholds of the conservadores for many years. At the present time however, the Irigoyenists have considerable following. History contains no account of disloyalty on the part of the people of this province.

On December 11th of 1917 the Government of Cordoba requested national intervention and the reason that the Provincial Senate admitted that it had elected a Senator illegally. The intervention lasted only two months and sixteen days.

In January of 1922 the province then being under the conservative administration a Federal Commissioner was sent into the province to supervise elections. The present Governor is Ramon J. Carcano, who is of the conservative political faith.

Province of Corrientes

History contains no revolutionary acts involving this province. It has always been a strong hold of the conservadores. President Irigoyen in November of 1917 because of some minor controversies between the Governor and the Provincial Legislature, intervened. The first intervener resigned, and the second left without a secretary and the Provincial Government reached a state of public scandal. Finally elections were held in August 1919 and the intervention ended.

In 1922 the Governor (Conservadores) assuming office sent a telegram to President Irigoyen informing him that he had assumed office and offered cooperation. The President replied that he could have legitimated the Governor had his election been legal. The point being that only 20,000 out of 66,000 voted. The radicals stayed away from the polls hoping that President Irigoyen would intervene. Corrientes is today governed by Dr. B. S. Gonzalez of the "conservadores" party.

Province of Entre Rios

In the year 1871 there was an insurrection in Entre Rios led by Lopez Jordan who captured and murdered Governor Urquiza. Public order of the regular army was sent against this insurrection, and after much bloodshed Lopez suppressed the rebellion. Lopez later became Minister of War and is father of the

prominent conservador of the same name from Cordoba.

In 1916 the Legislature of Entre Rios refused to function; several legislators absented themselves from the Province. The cause was party conflict over the election of National Senators. Finally the Federal Government voted intervention, which lasted five months and two days. Entre Rios is today governed by E. G. Laurencena of the Conservador Party.

Province of Jujuy

Due to controversy between the Governor and the legislature, both asked the Federal Power to intervene on the 7th of December 1917, which intervention lasted four months and twenty eight days. Jujuy has today a Radical Anti-Personalista Government headed by Benjamin Villafañe.

Province of La Rioja

The President in February 1918 sent a representative to this province to report upon the political situation, and upon his recommendation the President intervened on April 4th, 1918. This intervention lasted one year nine months and eight days.

In February 1925 another intervention was declared in this province for the purpose of reorganizing the Executive and Judiciary powers. It was reported that the members of the legislature were incapable of undertaking their work, neglecting elections, and never had a quorum for their meetings. The intervention lasted one year.

At the present time the Anti-Irigoyenists are in power with Dr. Adolfo Lanús as Governor.

Province of Mendoza

The province of Mendoza came in for much attention during the Irigoyen regimen. During the middle of 1917 the President sent an inspector to report upon the political situation of this Province. The inspector's report stated that the Provincial Government was in excellent order. The President notwithstanding this report intervened in the province on November 2nd, 1917. This intervention lasted three months and ten days.

During 1918 there was much disagreement in the Province between the Governor and the Vice-Governor. The former claimed that the latter was not of a sound mind and proceeded to prefer impeachment proceedings. The press took the matter up and commented upon the controversy at length. The impeachment proceedings were not sustained. The President then saw that it was necessary to intervene, and did so on the 22nd of November 1918. The intervention lasted, however, only twenty eight days, and resulted in the Governor and Vice-Governor being restored to office.

During the first part of the year 1920 the Governor died, and it seems the charge of an unsound mind was then taken into account by the provincial legislature; anyway the Vice-Governor was put aside and the President of the Senate took charge of the Government for the purpose of calling elections, in accordance with the constitution. This Provisional Governor failed to call elections before his term expired as Senator. The President of the Supreme Court then informed the acting governor that the latter's term had ended, and that he, the President of the Su-

-3-

Supreme Court, was now Governor in the province. The result was both persons tried to act governor from June to September, when the Federal authorities finally intervened. By that time the Provincial Government was in quite a mess. The intervention lasted from December 2nd, 1920, to February of 1922.

The present Governor is Dr. Alejandro Orfila of the Anti-Personalista political faith.

Province of Salta

On April 27th 1918, the President declared intervention in Salta for the purpose of reorganizing the Executive and Judiciary powers of the province, which intervention lasted eight months and eleven days.

In the latter part of 1921, disagreement occurred between the Governor of the province and the President of the Nation. The Governor dissolved the legislature, and in the press began a campaign against the President. The National Chamber of Deputies voted intervention. The President's Decree was issued in October 1921, and the intervention lasted about one year.

This province is one of the Conservative strong holds, and has had a Radical government only after the intervention by the Radical National Government.

The Governor at this time is Dr. Joaquin Corbalan who is a Conservative, as are the majority of the legislature.

Province of Santa Fé

Santa Fé is the only province which in 1893 joined the province of Buenos Aires to overthrow the Central Government. This movement was fostered by Alem. Julio Roca took command of the army, recaptured Rosario, and took Alem and the other leaders prisoners.

This province is the only one which went through the Irigoyen regimen 1916 - 1922, without Federal Intervention.

The Governor is Ricardo Aldao, an Anti-Personalista; the latter party has also control of the legislature of the province.

Province of San Luis

In 1919 the Governor announced that he had ceased relations with the Provincial Senate for the reason that they had illegally elected a National Senator. The President on the 8th of May 1919, declared intervention, which lasted six months.

In 1921 a peculiar situation occurred in this province, the term of the Governor expired without any elections having been held for a new Governor. The Federal authorities intervened on December 7th, 1921, and the intervention continued for six months.

The Conservative party rules the province, both in the Executive and the Legislature. The Governor of the province being A. A. Rodriguez.

NO OBJECT TO EXHIBIT
CIRCULATION

Province of San Juan

In January of 1917 President Irigoyen sent a Colonel of the regular army to supervise the elections. This so enraged the province that the Anti-Personalistas Party was elected to power. Later in the year the President sent an inspector to investigate the functioning of the Provincial Government. Upon his report intervention took place. The intervention lasting eight months and twenty two days.

In 1921 the Governor seemed to usurp all powers of government. He appointed two judges to the Supreme Court without consulting the Senate; the Court refused to receive them. The Governor suspended the members of the Court. Next he refused to recognize the legislature. They proceeded to impeach him, however, he dismissed the legislature, and closed the building. In municipal elections all successful candidates of the opposition were rejected by him, and he issued diplomas of election to his friends. The Federal Congress which was in session at the time sent a committee to investigate. Upon their report intervention was voted on April 5th, 1921, which lasted one month and fifteen days.

The Cantoni brothers, Federico and Aldao, have been prominent in the politics of this province for many years. About the time of the last intervention Federico (Radical) led a group which assassinated Dr. Anibal Jones the intervener. While in jail he was elected Governor of the Province. The Legislature passed a law absolving him and those accused as accomplices. On expiration of his term of office Aldao Cantoni was elected Governor and continues in the post. The brother Federico Cantoni came to the National Congress as Senator from that province.

In July 28, 1925, when Federico Cantoni was still Governor of San Juan, the province was intervened with a view to reorganize the Executive, Legislative and Judicial Powers, and the municipal administration; the President sent General D. Eduardo Borquen. The intervention ended early in 1927.

The Provincial Government is Anti-Personalista.

Province of Santiago del Estero

In 1919 the Autonomistas (Conservatives) were in power. The Irigoyenista Party in the province made a charge to the President against the Provincial Government, and the President intervened on the 17th of October 1919. Elections were held, but the Autonomistas would not go to the polls. The intervention lasted six months and resulted in the Irigoyenists taking over the province.

The Irigoyenista Domingo Medina is now Governor, and that party has also a majority in the legislature.

Province of Tucuman

In May of 1917 the Governor sent a message to the provincial legislators stating that the previous administration it seemed had misappropriated the sum of 900,000 pesos. The Legislature's Investigating Committee failed to find evidence to substantiate this, and in turn charged the Governor with misappropriating funds. The Governor immediately declared at an end his relations with the Legislature and closed the doors of the meeting place. The Legislature prepared impeachment pro-

ceedings, but on December 7th. the President of the Nation decreed intervention, which lasted seven months and seventeen days. As a result of the elections the previous Governor was restored to duty.

In 1920 the Governor of the Province (Anti-personalista) and an Irigoyenist who was a candidate for provincial office had a disagreement, so the President on November 27th decreed intervention. This intervention lasted about three months.

The present Governor is Miguel L. Campero, a radical. The Anti-personalistas have a majority in the present provincial government.

(b) Current Situations.

Province of Buenos Aires

There is a project now before the National Congress to intervene in the Province of Buenos Aires to reorganize the Legislative Lower. It is sponsored by the Socialists and will be supported by the Anti-Personalistas and Conservadores. The charge is violation of the Provincial Constitution in permitting gambling at roulette in casinos. It seems to be a well founded fact that the Provincial Government is not in the very best condition as funds are being dissipated, etc. It is also a fact that the Anti-Personalistas coalition desire to secure control of the Provincial Government previous to the Presidential elections. I am also informed that there is some dissention among the Anti-Personalistas and the Conservadores are demanding that they be put in power if there is an intervention, while the Anti-Personalistas are demanding everything for themselves. The bill for intervention has been introduced in the Chamber of Deputies, and will probably pass both Houses, but it is doubtful if the President will sign it.

Province of Mendoza

The Province of Mendoza is at present passing through a more or less critical political period. Last month an election for the renewal of the Legislature took place; while the ballots were being counted a band of ten or fifteen men entered the building firing shots, and it was reported later that some Electoriffs took place. The Irigoyenists accuse the Anti-Personalistas, and the latter accuse the former. As the Irigoyenists are out of power in the province, they are demanding intervention. They claim that they were not permitted a free exercise of the ballot.

A follower of the Irigoyenist party in the city of Buenos Aires has been quoted as saying that if denial of the ballot as demonstrated in the Province of Mendoza, and intervention in Buenos Aires for political purposes, are examples of the policies to be followed by the Anti-Personalistas, then there will be nothing for the Irigoyenists to do but revolt as the Radical Party did in 1890.

Sources:

Files of Embassy
Dispatch to State Dept.
Daily Newspapers.
Files of "La Nación"

Report No. 3795

Buenos Aires, May 14th, 1927.

C. T. Richardson
C. T. Richardson
Major G. S. M. A.

G-2 Report

4-1 1927 2271-2-12
3400 12 101
JUL 26

ARGENTINA-----POLITICAL

Subject: Local Governments (States, Provinces
or Departments):

(c) Relationship to Central Government:

The legal aspects: Article Five of the Constitution (see 3300 for details of that article) guarantees to each province the freedom of its institutions with general limitations.

Article 104 reserves to each Province all power not delegated to the Federal Government by the Constitution and expressly reserves all special agreements made at the time of admitting the Province as a member of the Federal Union.

Article 105 states that each Province shall have the right to elect its own Governors, its Legislature and other provincial officers without interference by the Federal Government.

Article 107 confers upon the provinces authority to make certain treaties to the end of administering justice, public works of common interest, economical matters; all with the consent of the Federal Senate; and to promote its immigration, industries, the construction of railroads and canals, colonization of provincial property, exploration of its rivers, introduction of foreign capital and to make laws in regard to these matters.

Article 108 states that the provinces will not exercise power delegated to the Nation. They will make no treaties of a political nature, no laws relating to commerce or interior or exterior navigation; will not establish provincial customs houses will not establish a mint or banks issuing currency without approval of the Federal Congress. The Provinces will not enact special civic, commercial and mining codes; nor enact special laws on citizenship and naturalization, bankruptcy, counterfeiting money or documents of State; nor arm boats of war or raise armies except in case of exterior invasion of a danger so imminent that admits no delay and in that case notifying immediately the Federal Government; nor name or receive foreign agents; and admit no new religious orders.

Article 109 provides: No province will make war on another Province. Their complaints will be submitted to the Supreme Court of the Nation and decided by them. Any such acts of hostility will be considered civil war and the Federal Government will suppress in accordance with the law.

Article 110 concludes the provisions of the Federal Constitution on this subject with the statement that the Governors of the Provinces are the natural agents of the Federal Power in enforcing the Constitution and the laws of the Nation.

From M.A. Argentina. Report No. 3780. (d) April 12, 1927.

-----POLITICAL

Subject: Local Governments (States, Provinces
or Departments):

(a) Relationship to Central Government: (Contd.)

Actual practices: Article six of the Constitution states: "The Federal Government may intervene in the territory of a Province in order to guarantee the republican form of government. This provision does, and has been so interpreted in the past as giving the President unlimited opportunity and excuse to interfere with the provincial government. There were several cases where the right was exercised previous to 1916 but it was during the regime of President Irigoyen that National intervention in provinces became a joke and a byword. There were eighteen interventions during the period of 1916-1922. Four of them were with and fourteen without, the sanction of Congress. Only one Province was not intervened and one was intervened three times. It is alleged that many of Irigoyen's interventions were simply moves in the political game to replace his political opponents, by his own political friends. During the present administration there have been three interventions. At the present time there is some agitation in the newspapers for Federal intervention in Mendoza. A few days ago while the inspectors at the polls were counting the votes cast at a Provincial election, a mob of some ten or fifteen people entered the building and began firing revolvers. Some twenty or thirty shots were fired, also there occurred one or two fist fights among the opposing parties. The Governor in his report stated that the Personalistas started the firing while the Personalistas' leader reports that the Anti-Personalistas were the guilty ones. The disorder was immediately suppressed however as the Anti-Personalistas were defeated at the provincial polls they immediately carry their case to the newspapers for intervention which, of course, would mean a new election. Indications are that there will be no intervention.

There have been one or two weak efforts in the National Congress to invoke laws to prevent the Federal Government intervening to the extent that has been witnessed during the past ten years. Such efforts have received little support. The President is the outstanding feature of the Government and during the term Irigoyen was in office - 1916-1922- he did not hesitate to stand on the principle "I am the Law" and he had sufficient power to bend Congress to his will.

(b) Outline Organization of the Government.

Under the provisions of the Constitution, the fourteen provinces have each set up a republican form of Government with the executive and legislative branches elected by the people. The term and numbers vary in different provinces as shown on the following chart:

ARGENTINA-----POLITICAL

Subject: Local Governments (States, Provinces
or Departments):

(b) Outline Organization of the Government: (Contd.)

(x)

Capital and Pro- vinces	Legislature:									
	National					State				
	:Sena-:Depu-:Ho. : Sena-: Depu-:Legislature					:Vice:No.of: Period				
	:tors :ties :Hou- : tors : ties :Gov- Minis: of Gov-	:ern- ters : ern-	:or	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Capital	: 2 :	32 :	- :	- :	- :	- :	- :	- :	- :	- :
Bs.Aires	: 2 :	42 :	2 :	38 :	76 :	1 :	3 :	4 :	4 :	4 :
Sta. Fe	: 2 :	19 :	2 :	19 :	41 :	1 :	3 :	4 :	4 :	4 :
Entre Rios	: 2 :	9 :	2 :	14 :	27 :	1 :	2 :	4 :	4 :	4 :
Corrientes	: 2 :	7 :	2 :	13 :	26 :	1 :	2 :	4 :	4 :	4 :
Cordoba	: 2 :	15 :	2 :	29 :	36 :	1 :	3 :	4 :	4 :	4 :
Tucuman	: 2 :	7 :	2 :	19 :	34 :	- :	2 :	4 :	4 :	4 :
S.del Est.	: 2 :	6 :	1 :	-- :	26 :	- :	2 :	4 :	4 :	4 :
San Luis	: 2 :	3 :	1 :	-- :	20 :	- :	2 :	4 :	4 :	4 :
Salta	: 2 :	3 :	2 :	21 :	32 :	- :	2 :	3 :	3 :	3 :
Jujuy	: 2 :	2 :	1 :	-- :	18 :	- :	2 :	3 :	3 :	3 :
Catamarca	: 2 :	2 :	2 :	10 :	20 :	1 :	2 :	4 :	4 :	4 :
La Rioja	: 2 :	2 :	1 :	-- :	18 :	1 :	1 :	3 :	3 :	3 :
San Juan	: 2 :	3 :	2 :	15 :	24 :	1 :	2 :	3 :	3 :	3 :
Mendoza	: 2 :	6 :	2 :	18 :	27 :	1 :	3 :	3 :	3 :	3 :
	: 30 :	158 :	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:

(x) Santiago del Estero.

It will be noted that the Federal Capital has representation in the National Legislature. The Municipal Government of the City of Buenos Aires is exercised by a mayor appointed by the President with the consent of the Senate. The mayor may succeed himself as is the case with the present Mayor Noel who next year will have completed three terms of two years each. He is assisted by a City Council of twenty-six members elected by the people. The political composition at present is: Personalistas 12, Socialists 8, Anti-Personalistas 2, Concentracio-nistas 2, Theatre party 1, and Communist 1.

The Provinces are divided into "Partidos" or counties as is known in most of the states of the United States. The head of the "Partido" government is called an "Intendente" or Mayor who is the head of the county as well as the County seat or Municipality. In large cities as Bahia Blanca for example, the chief of the "Partido" is assisted by a Council or as it is called in some parts of the United States, County Commissioners. These officers are all elected by the people of the "Partidos".

In the territories for purposes of administration, there

4-2 Report

3400

ARGENTINA-----POLITICAL

Subject: Local Governments (States, Provinces
or Departments):

(b) Outline Organization of the Government: (Contd.)

are also smaller divisions or districts, the chief of each being appointed by the Governor of the Territory.

Sources:
Compiled from previous reports.
Constitution of Argentina.
Anuario Kraft, 1927.
Daily newspapers.

C. R. Robinson
From M.A. Argentina.

Report No. 3780. April 12, 1927.

Report

4-1 2271-L-12

13

1927

ADDITIONAL 271-1-12

Subject: Local Political Conditions (States, Provinces or Departments):

(a) Loyalty to Central Government:

Since the beginning of modern Argentina (1868) in only one or two provinces has there been overt act of disloyalty to the central Government. Quite a few cases of disloyalty on the part of the provinces to their republican form of government have occurred; and other cases of alleged disloyalty for purposes of intervention by the National Government for the purpose of securing control of the provincial government.

It might be remarked that the provinces in the East and Mid West are more influenced by national politics than the others. During the period 1916-1922 all provinces were intervened except Santa Fe, and some of them three times. Enemies of President Irigoyen claim that interventions were political and made simply for the purpose of securing control of the provincial governments, however, it is certain that in many of these cases the provincial affairs had reached such a stage of chaos that intervention and reorganization were absolutely necessary.

Province of Buenos Aires:

This province has been the scene of many struggles and controversies in the early political history. Previous to 1880 Buenos Aires was the capital of the province as well as of the Confederation. During that year there was an armed conflict between the Federalist Party and a party called the Unitarians. The result was a victory for both sides. The Capital of the province was moved to La Plata and Buenos Aires became the National Capital of a closer Confederation.

In July of 1890 was formed in Buenos Aires the Radical Party and an open revolution was started against President Colman. On August 6th. Colman resigned and was succeeded by Vice-President Pellegrini. In 1893 Governor Costa of the Province of Buenos Aires planned to overthrow the Central Government; in a few months he was forcibly deposed. The provincial government at this time was in very bad condition. It was thoroughly distrusted. Every Department was filled with grafters and convictions of the guilty could not be secured.

Within a few months after Irigoyen became President (1917) the Federal Government intervened in order to reorganize the Provincial Government. It is charged by the enemies of Irigoyen that this was one of the cases in which the intervention was purely a political move to put the Conservadores out of office.

In 1915 a similar plan was projected but was not carried into effect. At this time President Alvear was in Office and a

From L.A. Argentina.

Report No. 3795. May 14, 1927.

ARGENTINA-----POLITICAL

Subject: Local Political Conditions (States,
Provinces or Departments):

(a) Loyalty to Central Government: (Contd.)

definite split had been realized in the Radical Party. The Irigoyenists of the Radical Party were in control of the Provincial Government. The Intervention act was passed by the National Congress but the President would not approve it. The Minister of the Interior (Gallo) who had favored this intervention resigned from the Cabinet as a protest against the President not approving intervention. The Government of Buenos Aires is now in the hands of the Irigoyenistas, with Valentin Vergara as Governor.

Province of Catamarca:

This Province is one of the mountain provinces which up to date has only 95,000 inhabitants, it has never played a very important part or influenced the political life of Argentina.

However, at a plea of subversion of the representative form of government the President intervened on the 27th. of April 1918, to reorganize the provincial Government. This intervention lasted one year eight months and four days. Catamarca is today governed by Agustin Madueño.

Province of Cordoba:

This province is one of the most important so far as national politics are concerned. It has been one of the strong holds of the Conservadores for many years. At the present time however, the Irigoyenists have considerable following. History contains no accounts of disloyalty on the part of the people of this province.

On December 11th. 1917 the Government of Cordoba requested national intervention for the reason that the provincial Senate admitted that it had elected a national senator illegally. The intervention lasted only two months and sixteen days.

In January of 1922 the province then being under the Conservative administration a Federal Commissioner was sent into the province to supervise elections. The present Governor is Ramon J. Cárcano, who is of the Conservative political faith.

Province of Corrientes:

History contains no revolutionary acts involving this province. It has always been a strong hold of the Conservadores. President Irigoyen in November of 1917 because of some minor controversies between the Governor and the provincial legislature,

ARGENTINA-----POLITICAL

Subject: Local Political Conditions
(States, Provinces or Departments):

(a) Loyalty to Central Government: (Contd.)

intervened. The first intervener resigned, and the second left matters to a secretary and the provincial government reached a state of public scandal. Finally elections were held in August 1919 and the intervention ended.

In 1922 the Government (Conservadores) assuming office sent a telegram to President Irigoyen informing him that he had assumed office and offered cooperation. The President replied that he would have congratulated the Governor had his election been legal. The point being that only 20,000 out of 86,000 voted. The radicals stayed away from the polls hoping that President Irigoyen would intervene. Corrientes is today governed by Dr. B.S. Gonzalez of the "Conservadores" Party.

Province of Entre Rios:

In the year 1870 there was an insurrection in Entre Rios led by Lopez Jordan who captured and murdered Governor Urquiza. Julio Rocca of the regular Army was sent against this insurrecter, and after much bloodshed Rocca suppressed the rebellion. Julio Rocca later became Minister of War and is father of the prominent Conservador of the same name from Cordoba.

In 1916 the Legislature of Entre Rios refused to function; several legislators absented themselves from the Province. The cause was party conflict over the election of National Senators. Finally the Federal Government voted intervention, which lasted five months and two days. Entre Rios is today governed by E. G. Laurencena of the Conservador Party.

Province of Jujuy:

Due to controversy between the Governor and the Legislature, both asked the Federal Power to intervene on the 7th. of December 1917, which intervention lasted four months and twenty eight days. Jujuy has today a Radical Anti-Personalista government headed by Benjamin Villafañe.

Province of La Rioja:

The President in February 1918 sent a representative to this province to report upon the political situation, and upon his recommendation the President intervened on April 4th. 1918. This intervention lasted one year nine months and eight days.

In February 1925 another intervention was declared in

ARGENTINA-----CHILICAL

Subject: Local Political Conditions (States, Provinces or Departments):

(a) Loyalty to Central Government: (Contd.)

this province for the purpose of reorganizing the Executive and Judiciary powers. It was reported that the members of the legislature were incapable of undertaking their work, neglecting elections, and never had a quorum for their meetings. The intervention lasted one year.

At the present time the Anti-Irigoyenists are in power with Dr. Adolfo Lanús as Governor.

Province of Mendoza:

The Province of Mendoza came in for much attention during the Irigoyen regimen. During the middle of 1917 the President sent an inspector to report upon the political situation of the province. The Inspector's report stated that the Provincial Government was in excellent order. The President notwithstanding this report intervened in the province in November 2nd, 1917. This intervention lasted three months and ten days.

During 1918 there was much disagreements in the Province between the Governor and the Vice-Governor. The former claimed that the latter was not of a sound mind and proceeded to prefer impeachment proceedings. The press took the matter up and commented upon the controversy at length. The impeachment proceedings were not sustained. The President then saw that it was necessary to intervene, and did so on the 22nd. of November 1918. The intervention lasted, however, only twenty eight days, and resulted in the Governor and Vice-Governor being restored to office.

During the first part of the year 1920 the Governor died, and it seems the charge of an unsound mind was then taken into account by the provincial legislature; anyway the Vice-Governor was put aside and the President of the Senate took charge of the Government for the purpose of calling elections, in accordance with the constitution. This Provisional Governor failed to call elections before his term expired as Senator. The President of the Supreme Court then informed the acting governor that the latter's term had ended, and that he, the President of the Supreme Court, was now Governor in the Province. The result was both persons tried to act governor from June to September, when the Federal authorities finally intervened. By that time the Provincial Government was in quite a mess. The intervention lasted from December 2nd, 1920 to February of 1922.

The present Governor is Dr. Alejandro Orfila of the

ARGENTINA-----AFRICANA

Subject: Local Political Conditions (South,
Province of Buenos Aires):

(a) Fidelity to Central Government: (1921.)

Anti-personalist political faith.

Province of Salta:

On April 27th, 1921, the President declared intervention in Salta for the purpose of reorganizing the Executive and Judiciary powers of the province, which intervention lasted eight months and eleven days.

In the latter part of 1921, dissension occurred between the Governor of the Province and the President of the Nation. The Governor dissolved the legislature, and in the press began a campaign against the President. The National Chamber of Deputies voted intervention. The President's Decree was issued in October 1921, and the intervention lasted about one year.

This province is one of the Conservative strong holds, and has had a Radical Government only after the intervention by the Radical National Government.

The Governor at this time is Dr. Joaquin Corbalan who is a Conservative, as are the majority of the legislature.

Province of Santa Fe:

Santa Fe is the only province which in 1893 joined the Province of Buenos Aires to overthrow the Central Government. This movement was fostered by Alem. Julio Roca took command of the army, recaptured Rosario, and took Alem and the other leaders prisoners.

This province is the only one which through the Irigoyen regimen 1916-1922, without Federal Intervention.

The Governor is Ricardo Aldao, an Anti-Personalista; the latter party has also control of the legislature of the province.

Province of San Luis:

In 1919 the Governor announced that he had ceased relations with the Provincial Senate for the reason that they had illegally elected a National Senator. The President on the 8th of May 1919, declared intervention, which lasted six months.

In 1921 a peculiar situation occurred in this province, the term of the Governor expired without any election having been held for a new Governor. The Federal authorities inter-

G-3-100000

PROVINCE OF SAN JUAN

Subject: Local Political Conditions (Status,
Provinces or Districts);

(a) Intervention by Central Government in 1911.

ended on December 7th, 1911, and the intervention continued for six months.

The Conservative Party rules the Province, both in the Executive and the Legislature. The Governor of the Province is A. A. Rodriguez.

Province of San Juan:

In January of 1917 President Rodriguez sent a Colonel of the regular army to supervise the elections. This he engaged the province with the Anti-personalist Party was elected to power. Later in the year the President sent an inspector to investigate the functioning of the Provincial Government. Upon his report intervention took place. The intervention lasted eight months and twenty two days.

In 1921 the Governor seemed to usurp all powers of government. He appointed two judges to the Supreme Court without consulting the Senate; the Court refused to receive them. The Governor suspended the members of the Court. Next he refused to recognize the Legislature. They proceeded to impeach him, however, he dismissed the Legislature, and closed the building. In municipal elections all successful candidates of the opposition were rejected by him, and he issued diplomas of election to his friends. The Federal Congress which was in session at the time sent a committee to investigate. Upon their report intervention was voted on April 5th, 1921, which lasted one month and fifteen days.

The Cantoni brothers, Federico and Aldao, have been prominent in the politics of this province for many years. About the time of the last intervention Federico (Radical) led a group which assassinated Dr. Anibal Jones the interventor. While in jail he was elected Governor of the Province. The Legislature passed a law absolving him and those accused as accomplices. On expiration of his term of office Aldao Cantoni was elected Governor and continues in the post. The brother Federico Cantoni came to the National Congress as Senator from that province.

In July 20, 1925, when Federico Cantoni was still Governor of San Juan, the province was intervened with a view to re-organizing the Executive, Legislature and Judicial Powers, and the municipal administration; the President sent General D. Eduardo Beron. The intervention ended early in 1927.

The Provincial Government is Anti-personalista.

From P.A. Argentina.

Report No. 3795.

May 14, 1927.

ARGENTINA----- PANAMA

Subject: Local Political Situation (General,
Province of Buenos Aires)

(a) History of Political Development (General)

Province of Buenos Aires, 1916-1924

In 1916 the Autonomista (Autonomous) were in power. The Independent party in the Province side a change to the President against the Provincial Government, and the President intervened on the 17th. of October 1916. Elections were held, but the Autonomistas would not go to the polls. The intervention lasted six months and resulted in the Independistas taking over the province.

The Independistas brought leading in new Governor, and that party had also a majority in the Legislature.

Province of Tucuman

In May of 1917 the Governor sent a message to the Provincial legislators stating that the previous administration it seemed had misappropriated the sum of 900,000 pesos. The Legislature's Investigating Committee failed to find evidence to substantiate this, and in turn charged the Governor with misappropriating funds. The Governor immediately declared at an end his relations with the Legislature and closed the doors of the meeting place. The Legislature prepared impeachment proceedings, but on December 27th. the President of the Nation decreed intervention, which lasted seven months and seventeen days. As a result of the elections the previous Government was restored to duty.

In 1920 the Governor of the Province (Anti-Personalista) and an Independent who was a candidate for provincial office had a disagreement, so the President on November 27th. decreed intervention. This intervention lasted about three months.

The present Governor is Miguel I. Campore, a Radical. The Anti-Personalistas have a majority in the present provincial government.

(b) Current Situation:

Province of Buenos Aires:

There is a project now before the National Congress to intervene in the Province of Buenos Aires to reorganize the Legislative power. It is sponsored by the Socialists and will be supported by the Anti-Personalistas and Conservadores. The excuse is violation of the Provincial Constitution in permitting gambling at roulette in Casinos. It seems to be a well founded fact that the Provincial Government is not in the very best condition as funds are being dissipated, etc. It is also a fact that the Anti-Personalistas coalition desire to

From M.A. Argentina.

Report No. 3795.

May 14, 1927.

6-5-36

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

Subject: Local Political Conditions (States, Provinces or Dependencies)

(b) Current Situation/Events.

secure control of the Provincial Government previous to the Presidential elections. It is also intimated that there is some dissension among the Anti-personalistas as the Conservadores are demanding that they be put in power if there is an intervention, while the Anti-personalistas are demanding everything for themselves. The bill for intervention has been introduced in the Chamber of Deputies, and will probably pass both houses, but it is doubtful if the President will sign it.

Province of Mendoza:

The Province of Mendoza is at present passing through a more or less critical political period. Last month an election for the renewal of the Legislature took place; while the ballots were being counted a band of ten or fifteen men entered the building firing shots, and it was reported later that some difficulties took place. The Irigoyenists accuse the Anti-Personalistas, and the latter accuse the former. As the Irigoyenists are out of power in the province, they are demanding intervention. They claim that they were not permitted a free exercise of the ballot.

A follower of the Irigoyenist party in the city of Buenos Aires has been quoted as saying that if denial of the ballot as demonstrated in the Province of Mendoza, and intervention in Buenos Aires for political purposes, are examples of the policies to be followed by the Anti-Personalistas, then there will be nothing for the Irigoyenists to do but revolt as the Radical Party did in 1900.

Sources:

Files of Embassy
Despatch to State Dept.
Daily Newspapers.

W. H. P. H. H.
From B.A. Argentina.

Report No. 3795. May 14, 1927.

G-2 Report

OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
MIL. INTELL. DIV.

4-1 2271-L-1230
3410 1930
14
WAR DEPARTMENT

ARGENTINA (Political)

Subject: Local Political Conditions
(States Provinces or Departments)

(b) Current Situations.

RECEIVED 1930 FEB 1 1930

The Provinces of San Juan and Mendoza have now been intervened for a year and conditions have in no way improved. In fact following statement was made in the Chamber of Deputies by members of a Commission who had been appointed to investigate the situation, upon their return: "The situation of the Intervened Provinces is disastrous. There is not in any of them any of the guarantees pertaining to a civilized regime."

The Constitutional Affairs Committee of the Senate appointed recently to investigate the form in which the interventions were proceeding, left Buenos Aires on December 4th and returned on December 16th with extensive reports on the economic situation of the two provinces which are now in the throes of a crisis and which is becoming worse each day. These are being made the subject of a detailed study by the Committee.

In the meantime it is stated that legislators, politicians, business men, foreigners and the press agree unanimously upon the urgent necessity for the Executive Power to call both Provinces to election so as to name their own authorities, who are the only authorized people to arbitrate the solutions of the difficult situations which the Provinces are going through, and which is according to the Constitution and the laws of the country.

E. Fleming

From: M.A. Argentina.

Report No. 4094

January 10, 1930

G-2 Report

ARGENTINA (Political)

Subject: Local Political Conditions.

(b) Current Situations.

On December 5th, Rear-Admiral Ricardo Hermelo resigned his post as Chief of Police of the City of Buenos Aires, which he has held since the Revolution. Colonel Enrique P. Pilotto, Governor of the Territory of Misiones, has been appointed in Admiral Hermelo's stead.

In a letter handed to Dr. Sanchez Sorondo, the Minister of the Interior on December 5th, the retiring chief virtually admitted failure to reorganise the department on the lines that had been suggested to him. He implied that he had been unable to secure cooperation from some of the higher officials, and declared that, in the best interests of the institution, he had decided to make way for someone else.

Admiral Hermelo's retirement was not unexpected. As a matter of fact it was regarded as a matter of hours from the moment of what was, in reality, the dismissal of the Comisario de Ordenes, Sr. Julio Alzogaray, on December 4th. It is stated that other important changes may be made in the police in the course of the next few days.

Following publication of the Admiral's letter, and the decree accepting his resignation, the Minister of the Interior announced the Government's intention completely to reorganize the dependency of which Colonel Pilotto is now the chief.

Dr. Sanchez Sorondo, Minister of the Interior, indicated that the title of Chief of Police would probably be suppressed, and that the new head of the Department might bear that of Prefect of Police instead. Name of Comisarias would be changed accordingly, to become, in future, sub-prefectures. There will also be a new post created, that of Secretary of Police, to which, it is reported, Dr. David Uriburu will be assigned.

Colonel Enrique Pilotto, who took office on December 9th, has had an interesting military career. Raised to his present rank in 1925, he has been Inspector-General of Cavalry, and Officer Commanding the Presidential Guard. He was attached to General Uriburu when the Provisional President of the Republic was Inspector-General of the Army, and, after the revolution, was offered and accepted the post of Governor of the National Territory of Misiones.

4-1

MAY 21

2271-112

1931

16

• • • • •

G-2 Report

3410

ARGENTINA (Political)

Subject: Local Political Conditions

(b) Current Situation.

RECEIVED MAY 15 1931

The result of the election in the Province of Buenos Aires being a complete surprise to the Conservatives and to the Administration, brought on a crisis in the Cabinet which for several days looked a trifle ominous. Rumours grew thick and fast, usually without any foundation, while a statement made by a member of the Administration was interpreted as anyone wished to use it. As usual, the Press in its sensational way did not help the situation by spreading all sorts of gossip rumours. There were even rumours of dissension within the Army and the Navy, but we personally could find nothing alarming in the situation as we felt sure then, and do now, that the armed forces representing the best people in all the parties were and are standing solidly in back of the President and as long as he carries out the announced intentions of the Revolution, it is believed that he is absolutely secure.

The Radical successes in the Province of Buenos Aires are, of course, a big upset and from a casual glance one would say that the people have renounced the present administration and would rather replace the old order of things. However, this is not the case. It must be remembered that the Revolution was not put over by the Conservatives alone, but by the better element of the people of the country among whom the majority are also Radicals. This is likewise true of the Army and Navy; a poll vote taken of the officers of the Army and Navy would show a big Radical majority. What the election did show, however, was that the Provisional Government has been true to its promise and without persuasion of any kind has permitted the people of the Province of Buenos Aires to express themselves at the polls. But for fear that the old clan of "Personalistas" within the Radical Party itself might imagine for one instant that they were going to return to power, the President thought it time to make a statement in which he emphatically reiterated the purposes of the Revolution, stating that to return those same people to office would mean that the Revolution had been purposeless and a failure and that under no circumstances would he permit them or their confederates to hold office, and that in case any of these people were elected to office the Government would not be turned over to them. What he did not say and what the papers implied he did say was that he would not turn the Government over to the Radical Party. This was the popular interpretation given of his speech by the Press. For several days, this interpretation caused a great deal of alarm and confusion, but we believe that the matter has now been made right and the President has made it clear that he will turn the Government over to anyone whom the people select regardless of party politics as long as that person can come into office with clean hands and a clean record and does not belong to the former

From M.A. Argentina Report No. 4339 April 24, 1931.

ARGENTINA (Political)

Subject: Local Political Conditions

(c) Current Situations

"Personalista" Party who held sway and as he states -
"Tried to bring Argentina to her knees."

In stating that he would not permit the return to power of the people of the last Government, we quote the President's exact words:

"I am the head of the Revolution holding the reins of Government by virtue of having triumphed. I shall not permit the country to return to the hands of those who have exploited it. The Revolution of September 6th. is not over yet. It will continue indefinitely until its objects have all been achieved or until the principles on which it was based are defeated. This is a moment of transcendental importance to the destiny of our land. Let us place love of country above all political interests. "

While the Government in no way interfered with the election or issued propaganda of any kind for any particular party, the Radicals got in a great deal of work among the voters by leading the more ignorant to believe that the present Provisional Government was responsible for the depressed condition of the world grain market. Also, it was pointed out that they have increased taxation, and that it was the purpose of increased taxation for the members of the present Government to obtain money for themselves. One post office employee who was caught spreading false propaganda would say to each person who came to his window to purchase stamps on which there has been an increase of 100% - "The Government is trying to rob you of your money, but I'll give it back to you out of my own pocket." Thereupon for every ten-cent stamp purchased, he would give the purchaser five cents in change, the money for this change being put up by Personalistas in the Radical organization, which proved a very cheap way of spreading poisonous propaganda.

The President's speech and the various interpretations placed upon it have of course brought to a head the fact that at least one member of the Provisional Administration has been dabbling in politics and that member was Sanchez Sorondo, the Minister of the Interior. For some time past, in fact from a few days after the Revolution, it was mentioned that Sanchez Sorondo was carrying favour with the labour organizations. He permitted the Federation of Labour excessive liberties and granted many of their demands. He interfered with the administration of the police when they arrested labour agitators and finally forced the resignation of Rear-Admiral Hermelo, formerly Chief of Police. Admiral Hermelo was succeeded by Colonel Enrique Pilotto of the Army as Chief of Police and we understand that he would

ARGENTINA (Political)

Subject: Local Political Conditions

(c) Current Situations.

brook no interference from the Minister of the Interior. On one occasion when the President was absent from the Capital and Sanchez Sorondo was the acting President, he had some officers arrested as co-conspirators with General Severo Foranzo against the Government. It developed that these officers had nothing to do with the plot and made sincere expressions of loyalty to the President, but in the meantime the Minister had them pretty badly treated at the Penitentiary. This and other things the Army and Navy resented, but principally they resented his entering into politics which was not the sworn purpose of the Revolution and we understand that over a month ago both the Minister of War and Marine requested the President to ask for Sanchez Sorondo's resignation. Sanchez Sorondo knew of this feeling and knew of the request, but declined to resign. It was not until the actual results of the election began to come in, and after the declaration of the President that it became apparent that Sanchez Sorondo would have to go, and we understand that the Minister of War and the Minister of Marine advised the President that this would be absolutely necessary. It is also known that the other members of the Cabinet supported his view, and it was the Minister of Agriculture, Sr. Beccar Varela, who suggested that the whole Cabinet resign and give the President the opportunity to reorganize his entire Cabinet strictly along Administration lines and outside of the pale of politics. By this trick Sanchez Sorondo was forced to resign with the rest of the Cabinet. After the resignation of the Cabinet, it was proposed that a coalition Cabinet be formed of members of both parties, and with this idea in mind, portfolios were offered to prominent Radicals, as for instance, Sr. De la Torre of Rosario, General Agustin P. Justo, who was Minister of War under President Alvear, and several others, all of whom refused to accept.

It now became apparent that inasmuch as no Radicals would enter the Cabinet of the present Government that the President must either turn right or left. If he was to turn to the right, it meant carrying through with a strong right arm, and if he turned to the left, it meant almost anything and probably turning the Government over to someone else. About this time there was a persistent rumour that that is what he was going to do and that the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, Sr. Figueroa Alcorta, who had formerly been President of this Republic, would take over the reins of Government. If this had been the case, Sr. Alcorta would be actually a constitutional president, as he was the third in line of succession to President Irigoyen, and as will be recalled, in my report of last August, he was the compromise man before the Revolution. But such is not the case. The President definitely decided to turn to the right, and so he reorganized his Cabinet. He did this with the

ARGENTINA (Political)

Subject: Local Political Conditions

(c) Current Situations.

assurance of the Minister of War that the army was solidly and positively in back of him. It is known that the Minister of War did not make this statement on his own, but after very careful investigation and conference with his chiefs throughout the country. All the commissioned officers in the vicinity of the Capital voluntarily, without a single refusal, and also all the naval officers in the vicinity of the Capital went in a body (about eight hundred) to the Casa Rosada where a very impressive ceremony was held and all the officers personally gave to the President the absolute assurance of their backing.

It is not known why the Minister of Marine refused to keep his portfolio which was offered to him after his resignation, but the new man who has come to take his place is a very highly respected officer of the Navy. He is of French extraction and French naval education. He is very highly respected in the Navy and was highly in favour of the decision to make a strong turn to the right.

The situation continued tense, but knowing the calibre of the men, leaders of both Radicals and Conservatives, as well as those conducting the Provisional Government, it seemed necessary that there should be some arbitration and so there has been. When General Justo called upon the President, he created much excitement and curiosity as to just what they were discussing and how it would turn out. It developed that their discussion was a most congenial one and this much we are sure is understood: That General Justo, a Radical, would like to be President; that when elections are convoked he will offer himself as a candidate; that a Government headed by General Justo is entirely acceptable to the Administration; and that if Ex-president Alvear will agree to the candidacy of General Justo there does not seem to be any other stumbling block in the way of an early return to constitutional government under competent men. This does not mean that there are not other acceptable candidates, but so far this looks like the most logical solution. President Alvear is returning on Saturday and shortly after that we should know the decision of the Radical Party.

We also know that by arbitration the Radicals agreed to wipe out their slates in Cordoba and we believe also in Santa Fe and Corrientes. The provincial elections in those provinces have been suspended. It is now the proposal of the Radical Party to propose no one for office who could possibly be objectionable to the Provisional Government. The Provisional Government, on the other hand, has announced that within a very short space of time, less than ninety days, national elections for both House and Senate will be held throughout the

From P.I. Argentina Report No. 4525 March 11, 1932